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Reserve	£1,170,000	0 0
Premium Reserve	309,248	9 11
Balance of Profit and Loss Account	52,986	15 3
	£1,592,235	5 2

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

894 new Policies were issued during the year, assuring	£314,819	0 0
The new Premiums on which amount to the sum of	29,572	1 5
The claims sustained during the year, including 16 endowments, were 296 in number, arising under 397 policies, and the sums payable, after deducting re-assurances, amounted, with bonus additions, to	346,122	4 4
The Income for the year of the Life Branch from premiums and interest amounted to	471,407	15 7
In the Annuity Branch 83 bonds were granted, securing annuities to the amount of £5,390 12s. 7d. yearly, for which was received by single payment the sum of	50,520	11 6
The Life Fund, now amounts to	3,340,918	11 2
The Annuity Fund now amounts to	500,275	17 11

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RE-ENGAGEMENT WANTED, as GOVERNESS to children under twelve, or as Housekeeper. Domesticated.—Epsilon, Belmont House, Mumbles, Swansea.

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WANTED, MAN and WIFE, without children, to live in the house. Wife as Cook; Man to take care of two horses and make himself useful in the house. Good references required. State wages.—Rev. H. Barry, Bilsworth Rectory, Northamptonshire.

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A GERMAN LADY desires a re-engagement as GOVERNESS in a family or school. Acquirements—good French, music, and English. Salary £16 to £18. At liberty after the first week in August.—Fräulein Geiger, 18, Russell-terrace, Leamington.

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GOLD MEDAL, Calcutta Exhibition, 1884.

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DRURY LANE THEATRE. — This Evening, at 8.0, A TRUE STORY.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—This Evening, at 8, DIPLOMACY.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.45, OLIVIA.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—This Evening, at 8.15, THEODORA (FRENCH PLAYS).

STRAND THEATRE. — This Evening at 8, THE HEIR-AT-LAW and THE INVENTORIES

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—This Evening, at 8.15, LOOSE TILES.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, THE MONEY-SPINNER.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 9, THE PRIVATE SECRETARY. At 8, THE YOUNG WIDOW.

COURT THEATRE. — This Evening, at 8.45, THE MAGISTRATE.

COMEDY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, THE SILVER SHIELD.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.45, THE MIKADO: or, THE TOWN OF TITIPU.

BIRTHS.

June 27, at St. Catharine's Villa, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, the wife of the Rev. HENRY LOUIS NORDEN, of a son.

June 28, at Filkins Vicarage, Lechlade, the wife of the Rev. HERBERT COURT STURGES, of a son.

June 28, at the Villino Trollope, Florence, Italy, the wife of the Rev. EDWARD SEYMOUR (late Precentor of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin), of a son.

June 30, at the Vicarage, Marston St. Lawrance, Northamptonshire, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES E. BLENCOWE, of a son.

July 1, at Stoke Lodge, near Hinckley, the wife of the Rev. JOHN MARTIN, Rector of Stoney Stanton, Leicestershire, of a daughter.

July 2, at Knowle Park, Cranleigh, Lady BONHAM, of a daughter.

July 3, at the Cathedral Close, Lichfield, the wife of the Rev. HUGH MARMADUKE ROWDON, of a son.

July 4, at Easthampstead, Bracknell, the wife of the Rev. RONALD C. SCRIMGEOUR, of a daughter.

July 5, at Ripon, the wife of the Rev. SAMUEL BICKERSTETH, of a son.

July 6, at Haddington-road, Stoke, South Devon, the wife of Staff-Commander BERTRAM GWYNNE, H.M.S. *Amphion*, of a son.

July 6, at Scarthingwell Hall, the Hon. Mrs. EDMUND MAXWELL STUART, of a daughter.

July 7, at Beechwood, Driffield, E. Yorks, the wife of the Rev. Canon NEWTON, M.A., of a son.

July 7, at 28, The Grove, Boltons, S.W., the wife of the Rev. E. N. HODGES, C.M.S., Masulipatam, South India, of a son.

July 8, at 19, Oxford-square, Hyde-park, the wife of the Rev. EDWARD SAMSON, of Brereton Vicarage, Staffordshire, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 19, at Robe-street, St. Kilda, Victoria, JAMES, youngest son of JAMES HAY, merchant, Dunfermline, Scotland, to MINNIE, second daughter of the late HENRY NORMAN BROWNE, and granddaughter of the late Ven. Archdeacon Browne, LL.D., of Launceston, Tasmania.

June 11, at St. Peter's, South Hampstead, LEONARD SHEFFIELD, third surviving son of the late Rev. Canon LLOYD, of Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks, to MARY DORA, eldest daughter of Captain CHARLES CRIGAN, of 8, Belsize-park-gardens, N.W.

June 25, at Athboy Church, county Meath, CLAUDE PLUNKET, youngest son of Sir JOSCELYN COGHILL, Bart., of Glen Barrahaur, county Cork, to MAUDE MARY, eldest daughter of FERDINAND MCVEAGH, Esq., of Drewstown, county Meath.

July 1, at the parish church, West Derby, the Rev. JAMES BUTTERWICK, Domestic Chaplain to the Duke of Portland, to SARAH ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of NICHOLAS SMITH GLAZEBROOK, of Hayman's Green, West Derby, Lancashire.

July 2, at St. Stephen's, Lansdown, Bath, CHARLES FREDERICK, eldest son of CHARLES GRANT TINDAL, of Fir Grove, Eversley, and Ramornie, N.S.W., to CAROLINE EDITH, only daughter of the Rev. HENRY TINDAL, of 5, Lansdown-crescent, late Rector of Frankton, near Rugby.

July 2, at the parish church of High Bickington, North Devon, the Rev. WALTER LOVEBAND, to LUCY ISABEL, daughter of the Rev. RICHARD YERBURGH, Rector of High Bickington.

July 2, at the parish church, Twyford, Hants, GEORGE WILLIAM PALMER, only son of the late George Palmer, Esq., of Greenwood, Hants, to DOROTHEA GLADWYN, eldest daughter of the Rev. L. WICKHAM, Head Master of Twyford School.

July 2, at the parish church, Gillingham, Kent, the Rev. EDWARD SMITH, Curate of Gillingham, to ROSA CLEEVE, eldest daughter of the late Major-General EDWARD METCALFE GRAIN, R.E.

July 7, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, ALEXANDER W. F. FRASER, Master of Saltoun, Lieutenant-Colonel Grenadier Guards, to MARY HELENA, only sister of Sir HENRY CHRISTOPHER GRATTAN BELLEW, Bart., of Mount Bellew, county Galway.

DEATHS.

April 27, at Sydney, New South Wales, ROBERT CLARKE, eldest son of the late Canon Savage, Vicar of Nuneaton.

May 11, at Fryerne, Mackay, Queensland, EMMA, widow of the Rev. F. TATE, M.A., Vicar of Axminster, aged 60.

May 21, at Port Lincoln, S. Australia, JESSIE ANNE, the beloved wife of the Rev. THOMAS BLACKBURN, Incumbent of Port Lincoln, aged 37 years.

June 30, at Amberley Cottage, Swanage, ALICE EMILY, the dearly-loved wife of the Rev. F. H. WALLER, Curate of Swanage, aged 24.

July 3, at 7, North-terrace, Brompton, AGNES RACHEL HANNAH, widow of the late Captain REYNOLDS, 73rd Regiment, and daughter of the late Rev. J. Homfray, Rector of Sutton, Norfolk.

July 4, at Battle, MARY LETITIA, elder daughter of the late Rev. MARK HENRY VERNON, Vicar of Westfield, Sussex.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—In the Chamber on Monday, the Minister of War announced that the troops at Hué had been attacked by the Annamites. During Saturday night, while the French were asleep, the barracks were set on fire and a bombardment of their position was commenced. The French resisted the attack, and by daybreak on Monday had driven off the enemy with a loss of several hundreds, the French having sixty men killed and wounded. General de Courcy telegraphed that he had arranged for the reinforcement of the garrison, that he was himself watching, and that no uneasiness need be felt.

A telegram received from General de Courcy, dated from Hué at half-past ten on Monday night, stated that the Annamite troops had been completely routed. The King's Palace, which contains a vast number of articles of great artistic value, was not destroyed by the great conflagration, and has been respected by the French troops. The Regent, Thuong, is in the hands of the French. The French losses are ten men killed and sixty-two wounded, twenty dangerously so. General de Courcy promises to send a detailed account of the events at Hué, and says he has already rewarded the admirable conduct of the French troops by distributing to them on the spot crosses and military medals. General de Courcy has addressed a manifesto to the Annamite people, signed by himself and Thuong, stigmatising the traitorous aggression organised, he says, by the Minister Thuyet, as most odious, and inviting the King and Queen Mother to return to the palace. Notwithstanding the damage done by the conflagration, General de Courcy says fifteen thousand soldiers could easily be quartered in the Hué citadel. He has ordered all the troops of the Infantry of Marine in Tonquin to be sent to him at Hué. There are in that country about two thousand men of those troops. They constitute one regiment, under the command of Colonel Chaumont, and were quartered at Hanoi and Haiphong.

The Senate has ratified, without a division, the Egyptian financial agreement.

In Madagascar, Admiral Miot, who expected reinforcements from Indo-China, is obliged to keep strictly on the defensive. The 500 marines despatched to him are the utmost that can be sent. The 700 he was to have received from Formosa have dwindled to 153, and they are generally invalided. Three companies of infantry and one of marine fusiliers are besieged in Mazunga Fort by the Hovas, of whom 12,000 are masters of the adjacent plain. They are well armed with breechloaders. The besieged can only communicate with Admiral Miot by sea. Owing to the Hué incident all the soldiers relieved from Tonquin duty by the Franco-Chinese Treaty must be sent to General de Courcy.

The Panthéon has for some days been full of workmen, occupied in removing everything connected with the celebration of religious services. All the altars, pulpits, chorister stalls, confessional boxes, benches, &c., have already been taken away.

In a letter on the English churches in Paris, the *Times* correspondent says:—"Of late years the British religious communities here have fallen off both in number and quality. There are not more churches than formerly, yet the aggregate accommodation is at least double what is required. Many middle-class English persons attend French Protestant churches, partly to perfect themselves in French, partly because they thus hear better sermons. A much larger number belong to the 'lapsed masses,' and go nowhere. . . . Some may think that the French Protestant Churches should undertake an evangelistic movement; but the two State Churches are virtually debarred from propagandism, and the free Churches are too weak and too poor. Opinions may differ as to the possibility of evangelising the French masses; but it is clear that if the attempt is to be made it must be made through English agencies."

M. Loyson (Père Hyacinthe) last week delivered an address on the secularisation of the Panthéon at the Winter Circus. M. Loyson, says the *Standard* correspondent, was heard with respectful attention as long as he confined himself to describing the Panthéon as a patriotic temple, but he excited a storm when he protested against the antagonism which it was sought to create between the spirit of revolution and the spirit of religion, and it grew into a tempest when he denounced as unwise, unpatriotic, and unphilosophical the proposal to tear down the cross from the building which sheltered the remains of St. Geneviève, the patron saint of Paris, and of Victor Hugo. He protested against the notion that the great national uprising of 1789 was irreligious. This caused considerable uproar, which increased tenfold when, continuing his address, he asked, "Must the cross be retained on the summit of the Panthéon?" For full ten minutes there was a scene of wild confusion and cries of "*Oui*" and "*Non.*" After the audience had shouted themselves hoarse he was able to continue:—

"Even if the cross had ceased to have a religious signification, if even it were but the emblem of a thing that was utterly past and gone, it would be needful to proceed to long and exhaustive deliberation before doing away with it. The early Christians showed greater toleration than modern Republicans. In the foundations of Notre Dame an altar of the days of Tiberius had been discovered. The altar of Christ had not destroyed the altar of Paganism, but had been raised above it, and the maxim of the early Christians was '*Diis ne insultes.*' Do not therefore suppress the past, only barbarians such as Attila——" Here there arose a tremendous tumult. Amid the din Father Hyacinthe was heard to say, "You cannot place another emblem above the cross." (A Voice: "Why not a weathercock?") Father Hyacinthe: "You see you have no other emblem." Another Voice: "And the national flag." M. Loyson continued:—

"Yes, I love and reverence the national flag, but it is only the emblem of our country, whereas the cross is the sacred symbol of the common Fatherland of all mankind. Do what you will, however, you cannot prevent the Panthéon being beatified with the cross. You may tear it down from the roof, but it is embodied in its very structure, which is in the form of a Greek cross."

After fresh uproar, mingled with applause, he proceeded, amid constant interruption:—

"Revolutionary fanaticism is but Ultramontanism reversed. Even before the clergy had raised its voice to protest they shouted to the priests, 'Away with the cross, or we shall tear it down.' (Shouts of 'Yes, yes! down with the cross!') I know that too often the cross has sheltered intolerance and superstition. It had been lighted up by the lurid glare of *autos da fé*—(cry of 'And the St. Bartholomew'). Yes, I know all that, but precisely because the cross has been profaned let us uphold it in our more faithful hands, and not surrender it to those who profaned it. (Cheers.) Do not forget the tears it has dried, the devotion it has inspired. (Ironical laughter.) If you do not believe me, hear your great poet, Victor Hugo. To touch the cross would be the act of criminals and madmen. (Fresh uproar.) But it will survive and defy all attempts to overthrow it. (Shouts, 'We shall see.')"

The close of the address was greeted with applause mingled with hooting. M. Loyson once more rushed into the tribune, and exclaimed, "La croix, je vous le dis, c'est la liberté."

It is reported that the officials of the Republican Press Association have acquainted the French Minister of Foreign Affairs with their determination to prosecute Lord Wolseley and Colonel Smith for having offered a reward for M. Pain's apprehension.

ITALY.—Mgr. Walsh, Archbishop-elect of Dublin, has been summoned to Rome to receive the Episcopal consecration, also to take his instructions from the Pope personally. It is intended (says the *Standard* correspondent) that the conduct of the new Archbishop shall give no cause for complaint, and assurances to this effect have been conveyed to Lord Salisbury.

The Rome correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* gives some further details as to the alleged conciliatory policy of the Pope. He was told on Friday by an ex-Minister, who was in power at the time of the coronation of Leo XIII., that the policy of the new Pope was even then conciliatory towards the Quirinal, and that secret negotiations took place through Mgr. d'Anzino, the Royal chaplain:—"It was decided that if a salute were fired from the Castle of St. Angelo Leo XIII. would give his blessing from the outer *loggia* of St. Peter's. 'At the last moment,' added my informant, 'we lost courage; and it may be safely said that we, and not the Pope, were the causes of an omission which might have developed into a perfect reconciliation. Leo XIII. gave nearly an hour's grace, and the blessing was given from the interior balcony of the basilica.'"

GERMANY.—The negotiations between the heirs mentioned in the will of the late Duke of Brunswick and those having claims upon his estate are now concluded. The King of Saxony and the Duke of Cumberland agree to pay the Princess of Hohenzollern, the Duchess of Hamilton, the Duke of Bavaria, and Prince Alexander of Hesse £75,000 immediately, without deduction, in full satisfaction of all their demands.

A decree of the Emperor has been published placing the government of Alsace-Lorraine, vacant by the death of Marshal Manteuffel, in commission, and directing that the necessary functions shall be discharged by the Secretary of State and the Under Secretary of State of the Reichsland.

Prince and Princess Bismarck returned on Thursday from Kissingen to Berlin, and on Sunday started for Kröckelndorf, to be present at their second son's marriage with his cousin, the daughter of the Prince's sister.

Now that the Duke of Cumberland is definitively excluded from the Brunswick succession, and the Duke of Cambridge's claims hardly appear to be taken seriously, this vexed question (says the Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News*) is evidently rapidly approaching its solution. "Well-accredited reports, indeed, named Prince Henry the Seventh of Reuss as the next Duke of Brunswick. Prince Henry is at present the German Ambassador at Vienna, and being married to the Princess of Saxe-Weimar, niece of the Empress, is closely related to the Royal Family. There appears little doubt that the Prince will shortly receive and accept the offer of the Brunswick Duchy from the present Regency Council. With everybody but the extreme Conservatives and Guelph partisans, this settlement of the succession will meet with general approval."

AMERICA.—Mrs. Dudley is now confined in the intermediate ward at Middletown Asylum. Her apartment measures 17ft. by 14ft.; it is lofty, well ventilated, and affords a delightful view of farms, groves of trees, hills, and towns for thirty miles. It contains two beds, and Mrs. Dudley's companion is a handsome girl, who imagines herself to be the only daughter of Queen Victoria, and the Supreme Commander of the crack regiment of New York, the Seventh. Mrs. Dudley will be speedily transferred to the convalescent ward, and her release is spoken of as a matter of weeks rather than of months.

RUSSIA.—Disquieting intelligence has been received at St. Petersburg from the Russian front, on the Murghab, that the Afghan troops are again being concentrated on the frontier still under discussion; and that, in the opinion of the Russians on the spot, Abdurrahman Khan is determined to take revenge for the defeat on the Kushk at the first opportunity. The Sarik Turkomans are also reported to be very agitated about the threatening attitude of the Afghans, which seems likely to call for Russian interference, should the conduct of the Afghans again go to the length of justifying the Russians interpreting it as an insolent challenge, as in the case of the incident at Penjdeh. The other news, of the rebellion in Afghan Turkestan, received through English sources, has caused no surprise whatever. Indeed, it only realises the continual predictions of the Russians during the last three months. The *Srit* remarks that all northern Afghanistan, which at present is in open revolt against Abdul Rahman Khan, has always leaned towards Russia, and it now only requires the presence of a few Russian officers and Cossacks in the district to aid in helping on the common cause.

The bestowal of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath on Sir Peter Lumsden is considered, the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily News* says, as the English answer to the gift of a sword of honour to General Komaroff. The *Novoe Vremya* thinks this measure an important hint of Lord Salisbury's intentions. It moreover is of opinion that Lord Salisbury ought to repudiate his former attacks against Russia before the negotiations recommence, or she will be compelled to claim fresh guarantees in connection with Central Asia.

The heavy tax hitherto paid by all male peasants in Russia, including the youngest children, to the amount of about two roubles yearly on an average, under the name of the padûshnaia (literally tax on souls) is to be abolished on and after the 1st of January, 1887. At present in the event of the inability of a peasant to pay the authorities have the power to refuse him a passport to go elsewhere. Another important change coming into operation at the same date has reference to the rent paid by the peasants belonging to the Domains for the ground given to them for cultivation. The reform referred to allows, or rather compels, the peasants belonging to the Domains for the first time to become proprietors of the ground in the course of forty-four years by paying an enhanced yearly rent, the sum to be in exact proportion to the real value of the land. The loss to the revenue by the first of these changes will, it is expected, be made good by a general Income-tax.

SPAIN.—There was happily a notable decrease on Monday in the number of deaths from cholera in Spain, the total being one hundred and sixty-five below that of the preceding day.

The cases of cholera in Spain and the number of deaths recorded on Tuesday were 1,109 of the former and 628 of the latter, showing a decrease of 598 cases and 169 deaths on the numbers of the previous day.

On Wednesday there were 1,453 fresh cases of cholera, and 717 deaths from the epidemic occurred. The Prefect of Toulouse states officially that no case of cholera has hitherto taken place in the Aube.

The Spanish Government has stopped inoculation for cholera in the Army and Navy, and forbidden surgeons to perform the operation in various places. Dr. Ferran alone is allowed to do so in the cholera-stricken districts exclusively.

Dr. Gibier, who went from Paris to Spain to test Dr. Ferran's cholera vaccination scientifically, had no opportunity to do so. He says the preparation and nature of Dr. Ferran's vaccine liquid remains a close secret. The Spanish practitioner, however, was very courteous, and went so far as to give a specimen of his virus to the French scientist, and to allow him to witness the operations. Dr. Gibier found some of Dr. Koch's microbes in the vaccine. Dr. Ferran inoculates about 600 persons daily, who each pay him, it is said, 12fr. 50c. There are gratis inoculations in cases where proofs of poverty are given. Dr. Gibier says he never saw cholera in a more terrible form than in the Spanish hospitals and improvised infirmaries. The filth there is inconceivable to one used to French establishments of the same kind. He has not the slightest belief in Dr. Ferran's vaccine, and thinks one might as well prevent violent colds by inoculating with catarrh mucus as deadly cholera with Dr. Koch's bacilla.

TURKEY.—From Constantinople the latest instance reported of the Porte's arbitrary conduct is the closing of a clothing store kept by a British subject; and it is added that so many instances of arbitrary dealing with British subjects have recently taken place that Mr. Fawcett, the Consul-General, sent a cavass and tore off the Government seals from the store in question, and replaced the owner in possession.

EGYPT.—Dongola is completely evacuated. The rear-guard, under the command of General Brackenbury, is now on its way to Lower Egypt. Mahmoud Salaar, the acting Mudir, accompanies the troops. The administration of the province has been handed over to Tumbal Hamid, a descendant of the Kings of Argo Island, who has accepted the post of Governor. Nearly 13,000 refugees have now left for Lower Egypt.

Lord Wolseley, General Buller, Colonel Grove, Colonel Lascelles, Lord C. Beresford, Lieutenant Childers, Major Creagh, and Lord F. Fitzgerald left Cairo on Monday evening. At the station there were drawn up guards of honour of the 19th Hussars and the 42nd Regiment of the Egyptian Army. Many pashas, officers, and civilians were also present. In connection with the departure of Lord Wolseley the following appointments have been made:—General Grenfell will be local Major-General, commanding all the troops at Assouan and south of that place. Colonel Green, of the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), is to be Brigadier-General, and to command the troops at Assouan. Colonel Leach will be a colonel on the Staff, and command the force at Korosko. Colonel Butler is to be Brigadier-General, with the command of the troops at Wady Halfa. The 20th Hussars commenced to move yesterday, to relieve the 19th at the front, being replaced at Cairo by the latter regiment.

On Saturday some British subjects called a meeting at the Alexandria Bourse, at which it was resolved to draw up a petition to his Lordship, asking that arrangements should be made for immediate payment of the indemnities, at least to British subjects. The funds at the disposal of the Government are only sufficient to pay their *employés* until the end of August.

At Alexandria a bondholder has commenced legal proceedings before the International Tribunals against Messrs. Rothschild on account of the deduction from the June and December coupons of the Domain Loan. The hearing is fixed for next week before the Tribunal of First Instance.

According to a Reuter despatch, it is positively affirmed at Cairo that, unless active steps be taken before September 1, the Egyptian Government will be completely bankrupt.

Another messenger from the Soudan has arrived at Cairo. Mason Bey sent him out last November from Massowah with letters for General Gordon. On the way he stopped at Kassala, where the Mudir gave him more letters. He arrived outside of Khartoum just after it had fallen. He was soon taken prisoner, but adopted the precaution of burying the correspondence before he was captured. A short time ago he escaped and has brought away the letters. Those sent from Kassala are said to be of much interest. This man says there is no doubt that General Gordon was killed, and adds that in consequence of his death many of the rebels are dissatisfied with the Mahdi. He thinks the Mahdi's power might be easily broken. Hussein Pasha Khalifa, the Mahdi's emissary, is expected to reach Cairo on Saturday.

The "positively last" man from Khartoum is one Abdullah Bey Ismail, who commanded one of the battalions of irregular troops at the siege of that place, and who escaped and has made a statement before Major Turner, of the Intelligence Department at Dongola. This man denies the treachery of Faragh Pasha, who was his fellow-officer. He says that twenty days before the capture of the city Gordon urged all civilians incapable of bearing arms to leave, in order to avoid starvation, and sent a letter to the Mahdi, worded: "Behold these people now that I have had them six months. Do you, therefore, act likewise. Feed, support them. Even as I have done up to the present date do you in the future." Abdullah gives the number of persons left in Khartoum before it was taken as about 14,000, including the military. Faragh Pacha, he declares, was killed because he had served the infidel. He believes that four or five thousand civilians and soldiers were massacred, though several grappled with their murderers and strangled many in their despair. Gordon, together with a "European doctor," an interpreter, and two other men, killed 200 Arabs at least from the palace, and when their ammunition was exhausted, the eastern door was thrown open, and Gordon, "calm and serene," smoking a cigarette and carrying a sword in his right hand, appeared. There was a pause for a moment, but one near him raised a rifle and shot the General dead. "I speak the truth," added Abdullah, "and lie not, Allah knows." The dervishes then assembled and killed the survivors. The Mahdi every day, after reading his prayers, "rises up to his full height, and turning to the north, draws his long two-edged sword and cries, 'Woe, woe to you Stamboul, for this sword is against you!'"

INDIA.—It is notified at Simla that existing restrictions upon military leave of absence will continue in force until the negotiations between England and Russia on the Afghan boundary question have led to a definite result giving assurance of a peaceable settlement. It is estimated that the extraordinary expenditure caused by the military preparations will exceed Rs.4,00,00,000.

AFGHANISTAN.—The following account of recent affairs in Afghanistan is given by the *Standard*. It is based on information supplied from an exceptionally trustworthy source, and in the absence of the usual official channel of communication between Cabul and Calcutta it may be accepted as representing our best knowledge of events in Afghanistan from the date of the Ameer's return to about a month ago. The identity of Mahomed Isa Khan with the Ameer's cousin, Ishak Khan, which had been doubted, is clearly established by this authority. The following is the statement:—"The Ameer, on his return to Cabul, issued a notice to all the hill tribes of Afghanistan calling upon them to put aside their internal dissensions and unite in order to resist either the Russians or the English, whichever might show themselves inclined to absorb their country. The Ameer promised to give arms and provisions free to all who joined him in a time of trouble, but the absolute condition is that they are prepared to fight either national enemy as he may direct. Few persons are found, even in Afghanistan, to attach much credit to the Ameer's professions of loyalty and friendship for the English Government, on the ground that had these been sincere the Ameer would not have decided to store his treasure in Turkestan, but would rather have kept it at either Cabul or Jellalabad, near the English, if he were firm in regarding them as his friends. It is well known that he sent his treasure, including some of our latest gifts, to Khanabad and Takht-i-pul, *en route* to Faizabad, the chief town of Badakshan. One traveller from Cabul declares, on the authority of Abdurrahman's Wazir, that the Ameer was thoroughly dissatisfied with the results of the Durbar, and that he considered the Viceroy as stingy as he was talkative. Abdurrahman expected not less than one million, and probably two millions, besides 100,000 rifles, in return for his employing the whole resources of Afghanistan in the defence of the Herat province. He is credited with having made the still more important statement that he considered the officers of the Boundary Commission to have brought shame upon him by ordering his officers to open fire on the Russians, and then refusing to fight themselves. This seems incredible; but my informant is very positive, and he has hitherto proved trustworthy. Several reports are current to the effect that the Russians are operating in the Desert south-east of Merv, and that an exploring expedition has made its way to the neighbourhood of Maimena. There are also rumours of discontent in the country itself. A pilgrim from Khulm, in Afghan-Turkestan, stated while at Peshawur that the Ameer's officials are intensely dissatisfied with his rule, and that they would willingly accept that of Russia, in order to be rid of him, and that Afghan-Turkestan would at once rise and join any invader against Abdurrahman. Mahomed Isa Khan, often called Ishak Khan, the Ameer's cousin, and Governor, has commenced direct communications with the Russians, and popular opinion is divided as to his conduct, many asserting that he does this with the knowledge and permission of the Ameer, while others declare that he acts independently, and that he is really not subject to the Ameer's control. This report tallies with the statement that large bodies of troops are now moving from Bokhara towards Merv and Maimena. The pilgrim or 'hadji' declares that in the event of war the Afghans would join the Russians, on account of the Ameer's tyranny."

CANADA.—The Indian Chief, Big Bear, who escaped when General Middleton pursued Riel and his rebel associates in the north-west of the Dominion, has been captured, with his band, while journeying to Fort Carlton with a view to surrender. They were reduced to this necessity by famine.

By private advices just to hand from the seat of the recent rebellion, it is stated that each of the volunteers engaged against the rebels is to have a grant of 160 acres of land. The troops are now encamped just outside Battleford, and for the first time for nearly three months are enjoying what may be called a rest. They have travelled about 2,400 miles

through snow, sleet, rain, and hot sunshine, sometimes having a tent, and other times being obliged to sleep in the open air. The weather has now greatly changed, and the thermometer registers 100 in the shade, rendering it too hot to move; while the mosquitoes have become a source of perpetual annoyance to the troops.

SOUTH AFRICA.—During the debate on Bechuanaland in the Cape Parliament, Mr. Sprigg denounced Sir C. Warren's proposals as being those of a madman and not of a statesman. He urged the House not to annex the territory on Sir C. Warren's conditions, and he contended that any settlement likely to have any permanent value must be framed by the Ministry, representing the majority of Parliament. He condemned the mission of Mr. Baden Powell as mischievous. The debate lasted a whole week, but merely resulted in the adoption of a motion for the production of papers, the Ministers being left unbound by any pledge or policy. The *Times* correspondent says:—

"Sir C. Warren's report shows an area of 70,000 square miles, with a protectorate available for 7,000 farms of 6,000 acres each. These farms, he suggests, should, in accordance with the desire of the native chiefs, be rented by English settlers at £9 each yearly. The revenue from the new territory, derivable from the Cape customs, an imperial contribution, the police allowance, the land receipts, the hut-tax, and stamps, is £63,000; and the expenditure is estimated at £62,000. Provision will be made for the official establishments, with five magistracies, and the judicial, medical, hospital, and legislative expenses, as well as telegraphs and police, and interest on a loan of £36,000 for public works. The Government is to consist of (1) a lieutenant-governor, under the High Commissioner for South Africa, who shall not be governor of Cape Colony; and (2) a legislative council, partly official and partly elected. The colonial laws are to be applicable south of the Molopo. It appears to be settled that whether or not a protectorate is established a military force is to be retained on the border for some time. Sir C. Warren finally insists on the necessity for an economical rule, and defends the policy of a prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors."

A rumour is said to be current in Tangier to the effect that during M. Férand's late mission to Fez he managed to secure a rectification of frontier, thus extending the French possessions in Algeria up to the river Maluya. Although the rumour is not yet confirmed, it is considered highly probable; and it is, therefore, most important (remarks the *Globe*) that our representative in Morocco should be alive to French intrigue, which unquestionably exists. The object, no doubt, is to obtain such a preponderating influence in Morocco as to be in a position at any moment to counteract our command of the Straits.

IRELAND.

The Earl of Carnarvon, who arrived at Kingstown from London on Tuesday, made his public entry into Dublin in the evening as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, with all the pomp and dignity of a State ceremonial. Although there was no formal recognition of the Queen's Imperial sceptre by the Lord Mayor and Corporation, in accordance with ancient usage, yet there was abundant proof of loyalty and good will in the throng of citizens of all ranks and classes who filled the streets, and it may be said with confidence that no more respectful or cordial reception was ever accorded to the Queen's representative than was given to his Excellency. The military pageant was unique in its solidity and splendour. All was done in conformity with a programme prepared by Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, and under his control. As the party left the terminus the company within cheered again and again, and the crowd in the street took up the welcome and repeated it with unanimity and fervour. The procession then moved forward, and along the route, which lay through many of the principal streets, Lord Carnarvon being received with loud cheers and waving of hats and handkerchiefs.

The Episcopal Committee of the Irish Roman Catholic Bishops, assembled at Maynooth College, have passed a series of resolutions declaring Irish Catholics entitled to share in due proportion in the public endowments for education without being obliged in return to make any sacrifice of their religious principles. They are at present excluded from these endowments except by accepting a system of education pronounced by themselves and the Pope to be intrinsically dangerous to faith and morals. This continued exclusion, it is said, is not only an obstacle to the progress of education, but calculated to keep alive a spirit of discontent and disaffection; and the small proportion of art students of the Royal University attending the lectures of the Queen's Colleges proves the failure of these colleges. They call upon the Irish party to press forward by every constitutional means the just claims of Irish Catholics in the matter of university education, and to oppose Parliamentary grants to the Queen's Colleges until these claims are provided for. They also claim a due share in the public endowments for intermediate education on conditions consistent with Catholic principles, and a representation on public boards proportionate to their numbers.

The Prince of Wales was an exhibitor at the Cork Cattle Show. He exhibited two bulls and a lot of Southdowns, from his farm in Sandringham. The former were entered for competition, and his Royal Highness was awarded second prize for a bull calved in 1884. He was, however, beaten in the class for bulls calved in 1882—a tenant farmer, Mr. E. Seymour, of Upton, being awarded the prize. The sheep, which attracted much attention, were not entered for competition.

The Archbishop of Dublin, in opening a church bazaar at Kingstown on Tuesday, spoke in favour of bazaars, and declared himself in favour of raffles, which were not an incentive to gambling. He had himself invested in more than five hundred raffles, but had never secured a prize. This in itself, he considered, should be a decided deterrent to gambling.

Intelligence has just reached Longford that the house of a widow named Doolady, near Ballinamuck, has been maliciously set on fire. On discovering the fire she endeavoured with her small children to escape, but found the hasp of the door fastened. A neighbour came to her rescue, and the children were removed. Shortly afterwards the house fell in. At the same time the house of an old man named M'Namee was discovered on fire, and with difficulty he and his wife were rescued.

Mr. Parnell, in a letter to the Rev. Charles O'Reilly, treasurer of the National League of America, acknowledging the receipt of £2,000, says that the position of his party as regards the Parliamentary branch of its operations has been very much that of men compelled to make bricks without straw, but they have, nevertheless, won every bye-election during this Parliament and consolidated their strength. A formal appeal at home and abroad in aid of a regular Parliamentary fund will be made for the elections in the autumn.

The Lord-Lieutenant has, it is stated, offered a Baronetcy to Mr. J. E. Harland, the Mayor of Belfast, and head of the eminent shipbuilding firm, who has accepted the honour.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

There was a large attendance of peers on both sides, but especially on the Ministerial benches. The peeresses' pallery presented a brilliant appearance, and privy councillors and sons of peers filled the space in front of the throne. The diplomatic gallery was fully occupied. The Prince of Wales was in his place on the cross benches. The Earl of Iddesleigh (Sir Stafford Northcote), Lord Ashbourne (Mr. Gibson), and Lord St. Oswald (Mr. Rowland Winn) took their seats on their elevation to the peerage. Lord Bramwell moved that in respect of the Waterworks Clauses Act (1847) Amendment Bill, Standing Order 93 be considered, with a view to its being dispensed with, so that the Metropolitan Water Companies might be heard by counsel against the Bill. He contended that the measure had become a private Bill in its passage through the House of Commons. After a short discussion, the motion was negatived without a division. Lord Enfield then moved the second reading of the Bill, expressing his willingness to have it referred to a Select Committee, not as a private or a hybrid Bill, but as a public one. The motion was agreed to.

Several Bills having been advanced a stage without discussion, Lord Salisbury rose, amid cheers, to make a statement as to the intentions of the Government, more particularly in regard to foreign affairs. He observed that the first matters of grave importance with which they had to deal were the negotiations with the Court of Russia in respect to the frontier of Afghanistan. It was not the business of the Government to comment on or to consider the past. They had to take up the matter where it was left by their predecessors. Further, whatever pledges had been made by an English Government must be carried out. As far as he had been able to observe, Russia as well as England was desirous that both countries should arrive at a settlement. He, however, held that it was not on settlements or treaties that we ought mainly to rely, but on having our own frontiers effectively defended, so that we should always be prepared to prevent the tide of war from rolling into British possessions. In Egypt Her Majesty's Government had to deal with one of the most complicated and entangled of problems, and before they came to any determination as to it, they must take counsel with those who had knowledge and experience regarding that territory. The first difficulty in connection with it was that in the Mahdi they had a triumphant enemy on the frontier. Next, there was the political question how much of the Soudan ought to remain under the actual government of Egypt, and over how much territory beyond that Egypt ought to have a power of control. Then there was the question of finances. Between a settlement of this all-important question and abandoning Egypt, which would be a shame to England, there was one consolation in the Egyptian difficulty. It was that the Khedive had throughout shown himself to be loyal and faithful to England. As to the legislation, the Government thought they ought to bring the business of the session to as speedy a close as possible, and he did not propose that their lordships should proceed with any important measure. They would, however, afford every facility for the progress of the Secretary for Scotland Bill if Lord Rosebery, who had charge of it, wished that it should be proceeded with. Referring to the insinuations that he wished to stave off the dissolution, he appealed to Lord Kimberley as to whether he had not suggested the clauses in the Redistribution Bill which accelerated a general election and made one possible in November next. In concluding a well-received speech, he informed their Lordships that the Lord-Lieutenant would make a statement as to Ireland. Lord Carnarvon quoted statistics to show that crime had so diminished in Ireland that at the present time the exercise of exceptional powers of repression was not needed. Since 1847 Ireland had been almost constantly under exceptional legislation. That state of things was not satisfactory. When the existing legislation against crime was enacted, Parliament intended that it should come to an end in three years. It had produced the desired effect, and as there was now no extraordinary amount of crime in Ireland Her Majesty's Government proposed to govern that country by administering the ordinary law firmly and effectively; and, in undertaking the office of Viceroy, he did not despair of seeing that on the one side there would be good feeling towards England, and on the other good government of Ireland. Lord Kimberley, knowing that Lord Salisbury had suggested the clauses in the Redistribution Bill which accelerated the time when a dissolution might occur, had never for a moment believed that the Prime Minister had any desire to delay an appeal to the constituencies. While concurring generally with the Premier's remarks as to the Afghan frontier and Egypt, he thought that the noble Lord rather overestimated the power of the Mahdi. Having observed that it was very unusual for a Lord-Lieutenant to make a statement of policy, he stated that he viewed with apprehension the experiment the Government were about to make in Ireland. The late Government tried it, and it was a failure. The Duke of Argyll thought there was nothing to complain of in the speeches delivered from the front benches, which were of an academic character. He would, however, on Friday call attention to recent political events.

Their Lordships rose at twenty minutes past six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

As the first business, the new Ministers, all of whom were warmly welcomed, took the oath and their seats on re-election. After this Mr. Bradlaugh came to the table, with Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Burt as his supporters, but before he could make any claim, the Chancellor of the Exchequer rose, amid loud cheers from the Ministerial benches, and, expressing at the outset his regret that his first duty in his new position should be of a painful character, appealed to the House for its indulgence and support, promising that he would endeavour to act up to that spirit of considerate courtesy which had always distinguished Lord Iddesleigh, and to maintain the dignity of the House. As to the matter before the House, he reminded the House that in February last it had passed resolutions that Mr. Bradlaugh should not be permitted to go through the form of taking the oath, and that the Serjeant-at-Arms be directed to exclude him from the precincts of the House unless he engaged not to disturb its proceedings. That decision, he pointed out, was in accordance with the final judgment of the Courts on Mr. Bradlaugh's position, and what he asked now was that he should be allowed to go through an "illegal mockery" which would have no validity. As to the amendment which Mr. Hopwood was to move, it could have no practical efficacy, and in the expiring moments of a session it ought not to be pressed. This was eminently a question which ought to be relegated to the constituencies, and he concluded by moving the re-affirmation of the two resolutions. The Speaker, before putting the motion, directed Mr. Bradlaugh to withdraw, and he accordingly withdrew and took his stand below the Bar. This, however, was challenged as a non-compliance with the direction by Mr. Healy and Mr. Parnell, who maintained that when Irish members were directed to withdraw they were excluded from the House; but the Speaker held that the cases were not parallel, and that Mr. Bradlaugh might be permitted to remain standing at the Bar. Mr. Hopwood then moved an amendment setting forth that the question of promissory and other oaths should be settled on a wider basis than the interests of a particular constituency, and committing the House to early legislation. Mr. Gladstone said that, while he retained his opinion that the House had throughout acted illegally in this matter, he had always acquiesced in whatever measures might be thought necessary for preserving the order of the House, and if the motion stood alone he should not have offered any opposition to it. But, as the amendment asserted that it was the first duty of the House to remedy the grievance under which the constituency of Northampton suffered, he should support it, although he did not agree with all its terms. If it were carried he should move to limit it to Parliamentary oaths and to this particular case. The Attorney-General, who was loudly cheered on his first appearance, argued that the amendment resolved itself into a Bradlaugh Relief Bill and nothing more. He denied that the House had acted illegally, for all its decisions had been confirmed by the Courts of law, and nothing could be clearer than the law that Mr. Bradlaugh was not a person capable of taking an oath. No ground had been shown why the House should change its mind, nor had any reason been offered why a change should be made in the law as to atheists. Sir H. James supported the amendment, as did Mr. Labouchere, who asserted that if Mr. Bradlaugh was ready to take the oath the House had no right to prevent him. Mr. M. Henry and Mr. Courtney spoke in favour of the amendment. Mr. Walter maintained that the best settlement was to allow those who desired it to affirm; and after some remarks from Mr. Storer, Mr. A. Balfour, and Mr. Newdegate, the House divided, and Mr. Hopwood's amendment was negatived by 263 to 219. On the Chancellor of the Exchequer's resolution being put as the substantive motion, Mr. Gladstone said that, as on previous occasions, he should offer no opposition. Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Willis, however, declared that they would divide against it; but when the House had been cleared they allowed the resolution to be carried without a division. Mr. Bradlaugh again advanced to the table, and, addressing the Speaker, said he would obey the order to withdraw, appealing to the constituencies against the injustice done.

Mr. M'Laren gave notice of a question relating to the proposed appointment of Sir H. D. Wolff to a diplomatic post in Egypt; and Mr. C. Lewis gave notice of a question as to the intentions of the Government with regard to the Crimes Act in Ireland.

In answer to Mr. Collings, who asked what facilities the Government were prepared to afford for the consideration of the Medical Relief Bill, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said he proposed to make a statement on the next day as to legislation during the remainder of the session, which he said the Government desired to bring to a close as speedily as possible. He also gave notice that he should move that the Standing Order relating to Committee of Supply should be applied to Tuesdays and Wednesdays for the remainder of the session, and that Government business have precedence. Mr. Gladstone, who concurred in the desirability of concluding the business of the session as soon as possible, expressed a hope that the Crofters Bill, the Medical Relief Bill, the Bill relating to intermediate education in Wales, and the Criminal Law Amendment Bill would be persevered with. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that the Government only proposed to take up non-contentious business, and observed that some of the measures referred to did not come within that definition. Sir W. H. Dyke, in reply to a question, said the Government intended to take up the Labourers (Ireland) Bill, and Sir W. Lawson gave notice that, on the Chancellor of the Exchequer's motion, he would move that as the House has no confidence in the present Government it declines to give it command of its whole time.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and was engaged until a late hour in the consideration of the Civil Service Estimates, Class II. (Salaries and Expenses of Civil Departments). Class 5 (Foreign and Colonial Services) was proceeded with, and on the vote for the diplomatic services a discussion arose with respect to the position of Sir E. Baring in Egypt, in the course of which Mr. H. Fowler protested against the payment of two missions at the same time. This drew from Mr. Bourke a denial that Sir E. Baring was to be recalled or superseded, but he declined to say whether it was intended to send out a special mission. Mr. Labouchere moved the reduction of the vote by £7,000, and Mr. Arnold having challenged the Government to say whether a special mission was to be sent to Egypt, the Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted the probability of Sir H. Wolff being sent out, but was unable to say when or what would be the nature of his mission. Ultimately opposition was withdrawn, and the vote was agreed to. Class V. was also completed, and the Chairman at this point left the chair.

The East India Loan Bill was passed through Committee, and after some further business had been disposed of the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

Three more of the new peers nominated by Mr. Gladstone were introduced—namely Lord Revelstoke (Mr. Charles Baring), Lord Monkswell (Sir Robert Collier), and Lord Lingen (Sir R. Lingen). All the new peers were introduced by lords at present in Opposition. The Regent's Canal City and Docks Railway Bill came up for second reading, and Lord Ravensworth proposed that the Standing Order should be suspended in this case, by which payment of interest out of capital during the construction of the works authorised is forbidden. Lord Brabourne opposed the motion, on the ground that the Standing Order does not discourage legitimate enterprise. Lord Selborne supported this view, notwithstanding that Mr. Chamberlain spoke in the other House in a totally different sense, when a similar motion was made there. The Duke of Richmond called the ex-Chancellor's attention to this discrepancy, and, after informing the House that Mr. Chamberlain based his support of the Bill on the fact that the undertaking would give work to large numbers of unemployed persons, the Duke expressed his concurrence in the view of his predecessor. The Prime Minister spoke on the same side, and on the same grounds. Lord Bramwell took the other side; and Lord Kimberley, closing the debate, suggested that the Ministerial leaders were prepared to set aside the Standing Orders because a little popularity could be got by so doing. The Lord Chancellor, having put the motion, declared it rejected; but Lord Ravensworth asserted his right to divide the House, and after some delay a division was taken, and the motion was carried by 46 votes against 37.

The House rose at ten minutes past six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

The first hour of the sitting was occupied by a discussion on the Dee Conservancy Bill. A new writ was then ordered for Aylesbury, on the motion of Lord Richard Grosvenor, and a small number of questions were addressed to the members of the Government. With regard to the scheme for sixpenny telegrams, Lord John Manners said he found from calculations in the Post Office that an expenditure of a million sterling would be required four years hence, if the business of the Post Office should increase as was expected under the scheme, and that under all the circumstances the Government proposed to leave the question for decision until the next Parliament has been elected. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, in the course of a brief conversation, said he felt sure this decision would cause great dissatisfaction, and urged that the matter should be discussed in the House before it was finally decided by the Government. Mr. C. Bentinck, on rising to ask the Home Secretary whether the Government intends to prosecute the publishers of certain indecent articles which have become notorious, was greeted with cheers from all parts of the House. Many additional questions were asked, and Sir Richard Cross was cheered when he said, in reply, that the publisher of any indecent libel is punishable with fine or imprisonment, and may be prosecuted in the ordinary way by indictment. The Secretary for War announced, amid cheers, that a vote of thanks will be proposed in Parliament for the services of the troops engaged in this year's operations in the Soudan. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in answer to Mr. C. B. M'Laren, made it definitely known that Sir Henry Wolff has been appointed on a special mission to Egypt. The intimation that the Government has reason to believe that the appointment will be acceptable to the Khedive was received with laughter by the Opposition, but only to be repeated with additional emphasis by the Leader of the House.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach rose as soon as the preliminary business had been disposed of, and moved the following resolution, of which he had given notice:—"That the Committee of Supply have precedence this day of all other business; and that, for the remainder of the session, including this day, orders of the day have precedence of notices of motion on Tuesdays, Government orders having priority; that Government orders have priority on Wednesdays; and that the Standing Order of the 27th November, 1882, relating to notices on going into Committee of supply on Monday and Thursday be extended to Tuesday and Wednesday." The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the course of a very effective speech, which was delivered in a crowded House, fully explained the intentions of the Government as to the business of the House. He urged that it would be useless at this time to adopt the abstract resolutions which were in the paper for Tuesdays, because they could not be carried out, and that the Bills down for Wednesdays, if they reached their second reading, could not possibly be carried. With regard to Ireland, he drew a good omen from the success with which the last Conservative Government dealt with the question of education in Ireland. Referring to the intention of the Government not to renew the Crimes Act, he took occasion to expose the policy of the late Government. It had been, he said, their intention to propose the renewal of certain valuable and equitable provisions in the Act.

He did not know what those provisions were. The Government had found no trace of any Bill embodying them. At this cheering and laughter were general. He further disturbed the members of the late Government by instituting a comparison between the coercive measures of Liberal and Conservative Governments, for the instruction of Mr. Chamberlain. A suggestion that the change of Government has not been unattended by improvement in the feeling of Ireland towards this country was loudly endorsed by the Nationalist members. In conclusion, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said that, after consideration of the whole situation, the Government felt that consistently with their duty they could rely upon the ordinary law for the maintenance of law and order in Ireland, and they had not felt justified, without proof of necessity, in proposing measures which, unless they were necessary, were odious to all parties in the House. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER dealt with the Bills of the late Government, and in particular undertook virtually to support the Medical Relief Bill, and expressed a desire to proceed in some form with the Criminal Law Amendment Bill.

Mr. GLADSTONE spoke for about an hour in reply to Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, commenting generally upon the policy announced in both Houses. Beforehand, however, he urged Sir Wilfrid Lawson—upon whose regained health he congratulated him—not to proceed with a motion of want of confidence which he had put on the notice paper. Mr. Gladstone promised a general support to the Government in the course of conduct which had been sketched out, "so far as national objects were in view." He emphatically confirmed Lord Salisbury's declaration that the Russian Government has undertaken to confirm the Ameer in possession of Zulfikar. He agreed also in the wisdom of strengthening the Indian frontier, and with regard to Egypt admitted that time must be given to the Government to formulate their policy. At the same time, he said any proposal to continue the employment of British troops in the Soudan "would raise a very serious question." Mr. Gladstone took exception, however, to the views Sir Michael Hicks-Beach had expressed with regard to Irish policy, and, after criticising the conduct of the supporters of the present Government during the last five years, declared himself incredulous that the Government would receive more support than their predecessors from the Irish members. Dwelling with much gravity upon the responsibility involved in the course the Government propose to themselves, he said it was not his business to wish they might fail, and if they believed they could protect life and property without exceptional legislation, he and his colleagues would bid them God speed. The ex-Premier discussed at some length the other bills to which attention had been directed, and towards the close of his speech many members withdrew.

Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL thanked and replied to Mr. Gladstone, and in particular dealt with his strictures on the Irish policy of the Government, and drew a striking contrast between the condition of affairs in 1880 and at the present time. They had, he said, come to the conclusion to endeavour to govern Ireland by the ordinary law, because they believed it to be a constitutional doctrine that special legislation must not be applied except in time of great emergency. In conclusion, he evoked warm expressions of approval by the observation that by a firm, consistent, and vigorous foreign policy the Government hoped to extract the country from its foreign difficulties, and they trusted that thus the new Parliament—from which they, as well as others, hoped much for the country—would find itself able to concentrate its attention upon domestic affairs unembarrassed by foreign complications.

A prolonged debate followed, in which the various Bills mentioned by the leader of the House were successively canvassed, and various calls to order were made because of the prevailing tendency to discuss the Bills in detail. When Sir WILFRID LAWSON at length moved his vote of want of confidence the front Opposition bench was empty, and it appeared doubtful whether the amendment would have a seconder. Mr. LABOUCHERE, however, volunteered his services, and spoke in support of the amendment on the ground that Radicals ought not to be willing that the present Government should remain in power an hour. On the contrary, he thought the House ought to remain in session till November as a Committee of Public Safety. Mr. CHARLES LEWIS delivered a vigorous attack upon the Irish policy of the Government, in the course of which he said that if the Conservative party were to be engaged in transactions such as the Kilmainham Treaty, he thought it would have been better they had never come into power. Mr. HEALY interrupted Mr. Lewis with an inquiry, "What have they refused you?"—an insinuation which the member for Londonderry vigorously repelled. Colonel KING-HARMAN, speaking after a short interval as an Irish Conservative, supported the Government in their view of the situation. A speech of Sir J. WHITTAKER ELLIS in support of the Government was treated with great disrespect by the Opposition, interruptions and laughter being kept up from beginning to end. The division was shortly afterwards taken, when only two members supported Sir Wilfrid Lawson and Mr. Labouchere—namely, Mr. BRIGGS and Mr. CARBUTT.

Committee of Supply was set up at midnight, and the grant of £30,000, being the Princess Beatrice's dowry, was moved by Sir M. HICKS-BEACH in a very brief speech, but opposed by Mr. LABOUCHERE, Mr. REDMOND, and a few other Radical members. The member for Wexford spoke with extreme disrespect and coarseness of the Sovereign. The Bill was carried by 153 votes against 32, the majority of the latter number being Irish members. Several votes for the law establishments were afterwards discussed and granted.

The House was counted out at half-past two by Mr. ILLINGWORTH, in order to prevent the nomination of a committee on the Pluralities Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House was occupied all the afternoon in completing the Navy Estimates.

On the Vote for the Admiralty, Sir J. HAY commented on a recent speech of Mr. Caine vindicating the condition of the British Navy, and Sir E. J. REED criticised severely the composition of the experimental squadron, and animadverted on the extravagance of the late Board. In the course of the discussion Lord G. HAMILTON said it was impossible for the new Board to do more than present the estimates of their predecessors, and their efforts must be limited to seeing that the country got full value for the money which had been voted. Dr. CAMERON renewed the strictures on the Transport Department, in reply to which Lord G. HAMILTON said that the present Board were not satisfied with the financial control over the department, and promised that he would make inquiries into the subject. There was also some discussion on the Dockyard Vote, in the course of which Mr. Ritchie undertook that the policy of the new Board would be to quicken the building of ships, whether in Her Majesty's yards or private yards.

On the Vote for Half-Pay, Sir G. CAMPBELL put some questions relating to the reinstatement of Hobart Pasha in the British Army List; but Lord G. HAMILTON, who bore testimony to the professional efficiency of the Admiral, pointed out that the Order in Council was passed by the late Government. Sir R. PEEL thereupon requested Mr. Caine, the late Civil Lord, to explain, but Mr. CAINE said he knew nothing about it except that the Order was passed on the recommendation of the Foreign Office. In the end it was agreed that the subject should be raised again on the Report.

The East India Loan Bill was read a third time.

The House adjourned at five minutes to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Lord Rothschild (Sir Nathaniel M. Rothschild took his seat on his elevation to the Peerage. The) oath in the Jewish form was administered to his Lordship with his head covered. Lord ROSEBERY, in moving the second reading of the Secretary for Scotland Bill, stated that since its first introduction two years age it had undergone alteration in three particulars. Matters relating to law would not be placed under the new department; the office of Keeper of the Great Seal would be added to it; and primary education would be placed under the control of the Secretary. He believed that these changes commended themselves to Scottish feeling, and he asked their Lordships to agree to them and read the Bill a second time. After a short discussion, in which Lord SALISBURY stated that the Government would take charge of the measure in the other House, the Bill was read a second time. On the motion of Lord SELBORNE the order for the report of amendments to the Lunacy Acts Amendment Bill was discharged.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH, in moving the second reading of his Real Property Registration Bill, stated that it was the corollary of Lord Cairns's Act of 1875, and had for its object the removal of difficulties to the registration of land under that statute. The LORD CHANCELLOR was of opinion that the Bill had a wider extension than that indicated by the noble Duke, and he expressed his hope that their Lordships would not, by reading the Bill a second time, pledge themselves to the principle of a measure with which no real progress could be made this session. Lord SELBORNE expressed his concurrence with the Lord Chancellor, while favourable to further legislation in the direction of the Bill. After a short conversation, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH withdrew his motion.

Several Bills were advanced a stage without discussion, and their Lordships rose at a quarter to seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

In Committee of Ways and Means, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opened the Supplementary Budget. He disclaimed, at the outset, all intention of making proposals of a drastic or ambitious character, having simply to meet the deficit bequeathed to the present Government by their predecessors in the best manner he could with the limited time which had been at his disposal and in the circumstances in which he found himself placed. Reminding the Committee that his predecessor, after imposing seven millions odd of additional taxation and providing £4,270,000 by intercepting the Sinking Fund, had left a deficit of £2,800,000, he pointed out that this deficit had since been increased by the refusal of the House to assent to the additional beer and spirit duties, amounting to £1,850,000, and the succession duties, amounting to £200,000. On the other hand, since his original Budget, Mr. Childers had given up a certain portion of his anticipated revenue from spirits, and had estimated for a saving on the Vote of Credit, the net result of which was to bring the deficit down to £2,650,000. As to the estimates of revenue, no change had occurred since then which called for mention. There had been a falling-off of about £150,000 on British spirits, owing to the disturbance of trade, and of £40,000 on the railway duty; but, on the other hand, owing to the cautious manner in which the Estimates had been framed and the prospects of a good harvest, there was every reason to believe that there would be gains which would counterbalance any loss. After stating that he proposed to take up Mr. Childers's proposals for an 8d. Income-tax and an increased stamp duty on foreign securities, he said it had been his duty to consider whether it would be possible to propose any addition to indirect taxation; but, considering that the revenue had lost its elasticity and that the limits of taxation on all important articles of consumption had been reached, he did not see his way to it. As to tea, it was the unpopularity of such a tax which had induced the late Government not to propose it, and if a strong Ministry could not carry such a tax he could not be expected to propose it. Mr. Childers's proposal to tax beer and spirits was so financially unsound, being imposed on a falling revenue and with every reason to believe that it would not yield what had been estimated, that he never would have proposed it had he not been driven to it by the difficulty of taxing any other article of consumption. He himself within the short time at his disposal, had not been able to propose any other indirect tax which would have had a fair prospect of being accepted by the House of Commons, and without such a prospect it would be criminal to disturb the trade of the country by prolonged uncertainty. He had not thought it consistent with his duty to propose any addition to direct taxation, and dealing with the suggestion that some relief should be given to direct taxation equivalent to that received by indirect taxpayers in the refusal of the beer and spirit duties, he pointed out that, taking a survey of years, the case of the Income-tax payers was not so hard when compared with the Customs and Inland Revenue. But he was sorry to say that the hopes held out by Mr. Childers that the expenditure under the Vote of Credit would be limited to nine millions could hardly be made good. The reason of this he explained to be that the estimate of £2,800,000 given in by the Admiralty of its expenditure out of the Vote of Credit had been exceeded by £850,000, of which £500,000 at least had been incurred at the time the estimate was given, and evidently under circumstances showing great want of control. He could not say who was to blame, but he was making inquiries. He mentioned also that the Admiralty estimate provided for the building of torpedo boats, but no provision was made for arming them or providing gear. As to the means of providing for the deficit, which would now amount to £3,877,000, he said he intended to extend the interception of the Sinking Fund to the new Sinking Fund, but he did not intend to intercept any of the Sinking Fund operations for 1886-7, preferring to leave over the matter to the decision of the new Parliament. In the interval he proposed to take power to raise a sum not exceeding £4,000,000 by Exchequer or Treasury Bills, and in conclusion he said he put forward his proposals not as entirely satisfactory to himself, nor as those which he would prefer in another year, but as the best under the circumstances, which would involve the least disturbance to trade and to the future liberty of Parliament. Mr. CHILDERS expressed his dissent from the doctrine that the taxation on all important articles of consumption had reached its limit, but thought it better to postpone all controversial remarks on the Budget until the second reading of the Tax Bill. Mr. CAINE, in reference to the charge against the late Admiralty, pointed out the difficulty of forming exact estimates at the time when the preparations for war were still going on. After a few words from Mr. W. FOWLER, Mr. H. FOWLER argued that, as between real and personal property, real property was not unfairly taxed. He did not defend the present system of local rating, but pointed out that the poor-rate had decreased more than 25 per cent. during the last thirty years, and maintained that five-sixths of the taxation of the country fell upon the industrial classes. Sir B. LEIGHTON, Mr. R. PAGET, and Mr. GRANTHAM denied this, contending that local rates were a tax upon labour and not upon land; Mr. Alderman LAWRENCE contended that no case had been made out to justify placing real property in a different position to household property; and Mr. A. ARNOLD complained of the scandalous exemptions from property-tax which were proposed in the Budget. Mr. Ecroyd, Mr. Harris, Mr. M'Laren, Mr. F. W. Buxton, Mr. Storer, Mr. Illingworth, and Mr. Biddell joined in the discussion. Sir W. HARCOURT referred to the condition of agriculture fifty years ago, and showed that free trade had nothing to do with the present depression of trade; and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER briefly replied to the various questions which had been put, and, the usual resolutions having been read, the Inland Revenue Bill was brought in and read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next Thursday.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill was resumed by Sir R. CROSS, who, in stating the attitude which the Government intended to take in reference to the Bill, said they admitted the necessity of carrying into effect some of the recommendations of the House of Lords' Committee, but as the alterations to be made in the Bill were principally in detail he hoped discussion would be deferred until the Bill reached the Committee stage. Mr. HOPWOOD moved an amendment deprecating repressive legislation of the kind proposed, but failed to find a seconder. Mr. A. ELLIOT, while giving a qualified approval of the Bill, maintained that the existing law ought to be more regularly enforced. Mr. BROADHURST advocated social reforms instead of penal legislation, as being more likely to effect the objects aimed at by the Bill, and especially objected to the clauses giving the police exceptional powers. Mr. WARTON spoke against the Bill, while Mr. S. MORLEY heartily thanked the Home Secretary for the determination which he had shown to pass a Bill on this subject, and referring to the startling statements which had been made during the last few days—which he held could only be justified by their truth—he said he should be ready with any two others to test them, and, if necessary, to put his name to a statement which would further stimulate public opinion. Mr. FORSTER also supported the second reading, and after some observations from Mr. PICTON, Mr. ACKERS, and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, Sir R. CROSS fixed the Committee for Tuesday, and intimated that before then he would place amendments on the paper. The Bill was then read a second time.

On the report of Supply being brought up, Lord H. LENNOX again referred to the reinstatement of Hobart Pasha, and, after some remarks from Sir G. CAMPBELL, Lord G. HAMILTON pointed out that Hobart Pasha was not now in the Turkish service, and, in the opinion of the late Government, was entitled to be again placed in the position he formerly occupied in the Navy. Sir R. PEEL asked for further information, as Hobart Pasha had recently informed him that he was still in the service of the Turkish Government. Mr. W. H. SMITH pointed out that the late Government were alone responsible for his reinstatement, and Mr. CAINE, who was unable to say what had been done, suggested that further inquiry should be made. Mr. RAMSAY also spoke, and in reply to Mr. TOMLINSON, Mr. RITCHIE said that no provision was made in the present estimates for the pension of Admiral Hobart. Mr. COURTNEY moved the adjournment of the debate, in order that further information might be obtained, to which Lord G. HAMILTON assented. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER did not object to the adjournment, but expressed the hope that when the subject came on again some member of the late Government would be present to justify the vote. The other votes were then agreed to.

The Federal Council of Australasia Bill was read a second time, the Copyhold Enfranchisement Bill passed through Committee, and after some further business had been disposed of the House adjourned at 20 minutes to 3 o'clock.

All the seats vacated by gentlemen who have taken office under Lord Salisbury are now filled, except Horsham, and the Government has not sustained a single reverse.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The polling for County Down took place on Wednesday, and the result was declared on the following afternoon as follows:—Lord Arthur Hill (C), 5,097; Mr. J. S. Brown (L), 4,696; majority for the Conservative, 401. At the general election Lord Arthur Hill headed the poll with 5,873 votes, Viscount Castlereagh (C) polling 5,599, and Major Sharman Crawford (L) 5,579. On Viscount Castlereagh going to the House of Lords as Marquis of Londonderry, he was succeeded by Mr. R. W. B. Ker (C), who polled 4,387 votes, against 3,998 given for Major Sharman Crawford (L), his opponent.

The Queen has been pleased to confer on Colonel Ridgeway, at present in charge of the Afghan Boundary Commission, the honour of a Knight Commandership of the Star of India, and to appoint the Earl of Coventry to be captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms, and Lord Boston to be a Lord-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

Vice-Admiral Hood, First Sea Lord of the Admiralty, has appointed Mr. Arthur Clayton to be his private secretary. Vice-Admiral Sir Anthony Hoskins, Second Sea Lord, has appointed Mr. John H. Giffard to be his private secretary. Captain Codrington, Third Sea Lord, has appointed Mr. G. H. Hoste to be his private secretary.

Mr. E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., in a letter to the secretary of the Plymouth Conservative Association, admits that he is disappointed at not receiving a legal appointment under the new Government, and states that he is unable to assign a satisfactory reason therefor. Nevertheless, no personal considerations will interfere with his own loyalty.

Mr. JAMES LOWTHER, M.P., on Thursday addressed a meeting at Grimoldby, near Louth, in support of Alderman Atkinson, the Conservative candidate for North Lincolnshire. He said he was glad to think that a searching inquiry was about to be instituted into the causes which had brought about the serious depression throughout all our national industries. Until some system was devised whereby English farmers and manufacturers could successfully compete with foreigners it was idle to hope for the return of a better state of things. The labour market was already over-stocked, and the self-styled friends of the agricultural labourer had brought this about, for their policy in the first instance was to starve the labourer, and in the second place to drive him out of the country altogether. It was into this ruinous and disastrous system that the Conservatives demanded searching inquiry. The protection he demanded was a measure of justice to enable agriculture to be conducted on profitable terms in England, and he was pretty well used to dealing with the calumnies and misrepresentations of those who said the policy he advocated would render unduly dear the price of food. He reminded them that the issue to be decided next day was whether they were content to rest under the present grievous burdens of local taxation, and whether those interested in one form of property should pay all those obligations which were discharged on behalf of the community at large. A resolution in support of Mr. Atkinson was unanimously adopted.

Mr. MARRIOTT on Thursday night addressed a large meeting of electors in the Dome at Brighton on his seeking their suffrages in consequence of being appointed Judge Advocate-General. Colonel Verrall, vice-president of the Brighton Constitutional Association, took the chair. Mr. Marriott, who on rising was warmly cheered, thanked his opponents for their resolution not to oppose him on the present occasion. He was willing and anxious to go before the constituency in a fair battle, and the Conservative party were fully prepared to bring on the general election at the earliest possible moment. Mr. Marriott dwelt at some length upon political questions, holding that the late Ministry was rotten to the core, and this because of its abject hypocrisy. Professions were made which were not believed in, promises made which were never kept, and England was held up to the world in a character she had never been in before. In conclusion, he asked his hearers to look at the altered attitude of foreign Powers during the few days of office of the present Government. Towards the close of the meeting a resolution was passed congratulating Mr. Marriott upon his appointment to office, and pledging the meeting to use their utmost endeavours to return him should his re-election be opposed.

Mr. Edwin Green, chairman, and Mr. H. Sharp, hon. secretary of the Radcliffe Committee of the Notts County Liberal Association, write to the *Daily News* with reference to a refusal to let the National Schoolroom in Radcliffe "for a Liberal meeting, although it has twice recently been lent for Conservative meeetings." They enclose a statement, of which the following is the concluding passage:—"The school is a public elementary one, receiving a Government grant, and is supported largely by public subscriptions, Nonconformists being among the subscribers, and being regularly solicited to subscribe. The school committee, through their chairman, the vicar of the parish, refuse to let the room to the Liberals for a meeting of electors. They decline to give their reply in writing, but the vicar explains that the applicants will clearly see how impossible it is to let the schoolroom to them, because the landlord of the premises is Earl Manvers, the father of Lord Newark, the Conservative candidate, and what an insult it would be to these gentlemen to let the schoolroom for such a purpose!"

A correspondence has taken place between Mr. W. H. Coney, hon. secretary of the Sleaford Liberal Association, and the Rev. Arthur Myers, rector of Ruskington, with regard to the use of his school for Liberal meetings. Mr. MYERS said that nothing would induce him to sanction the use of the school for Liberal meetings, and added that he could not understand the audacity of Liberals in asking a strict Conservative for any such privilege. Mr. CONEY, in acknowledging the receipt of this letter, requested that he might be informed as to what principles of the Liberal party disentitled them to the use of the schoolroom for a Liberal meeting. Mr. Myers replied that if Mr. Coney would peruse carefully all the speeches of the Liberal party—more especially "those of Mr. Gladstone, Bradlaugh, Chamberlain, and Sir Charles Dilke," he would, perhaps, be able

to see that their views were not quite in harmony with those which a conscientious Churchman ought to sanction. The correspondence closes with a letter from Mr. Coney expressing astonishment and resentment at the decision and language of the rev. gentleman.

Presiding at the Conservative dinner of the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, held in London yesterday week, the Marquis of Salisbury said that some Powers had been accused of appropriating large tracts of territory and taking no further notice of them, and of making no effort for their development and improvement. What those Powers did to large tracts of territory the Liberal party were apt to do to large areas of political opinion. They took possession of a question; they averred that it was theirs, and had always been theirs; and having done that they paid no further attention to it, and allowed it to remain in the pigeon-hole or the dust-heap. If the question of local self-government was to be a matter of political copyright, it was one to which the Tory party had paid special attention. This question of decentralisation had more to do with the vital forces of the country than many others which were more talked about and which received a larger amount of public attention. Turning to the disestablishment question, the noble Marquis said:—"It is in Scotland that the battle of the State Church will apparently be fought. The manœuvres of those who are seeking to sap the doctrine of an Established Church are very remarkable and curious to watch. It is a strange device to introduce the question of the Scottish Church in parts of this country where Scotland is not a familiar idea to the capable citizen of the future. I need not remind you that the Liberal or Radical candidate for Hampstead, the Marquis of Lorne, has put the disestablishment of the Scotch Church in the forefront; but I am told that also in Aylesbury, where I should have thought that the Scotch Church was not a very burning question, the test question put to the Liberal candidate was, 'Will you disestablish the Scotch Church?' Now, of those curious tactics there can be but one interpretation. To disestablish the Scotch Church is certainly not popular in Scotland, but it is possible that it may be popular somewhere else. In Scotland it has met with a terrible reverse. I suppose there never has been a petition in this world, if you take all the circumstances which surround the case, comparable to that petition which has been addressed against Mr. Peddie's Bill. The last time I saw the numbers they approached 700,000 signatories, and that is a proportion of the population of Scotland which I believe is without any precedent in regard to any measure whatever. If you remember that this amount of resistance has been aroused by the simple proposal made by a private member possessing no special authority, you can gauge the depth of affection with which the Scottish Established Church is regarded. I do not believe that there is any chance on the vote of Scotland alone, if Scotland can be fairly polled, of so disastrous a revolution as that; but much is to be done by political contrivance. It would be a great thing if the Radicals of England should disestablish the Scotch Church, and then the Radicals of Scotland should help to disestablish the English Church. That would be a wonderful distribution of forces, and that appears to be the device to which the enemies of all Established Churches have betaken themselves. Against this strange combination I trust that the friends of Established Churches in both countries will be alive and active. I need not speak to you here of the value of the principle of an Established Church. It means the constant maintenance of the services of religion in rich districts and in poor districts, alike in times of excitement and in times of langour, not by fits and starts, but by the steady operation of a constant mechanism; and it means what is still more important—the constant influence of the laity in the affairs of the Church. It means the observance of the Apostolic injunction, 'Let your moderation be made known unto all men.' An Established Church is the only home in which fervour can exist without running the risk of departing from moderation. We are all of one mind as to the importance of these great institutions. We can only lose them if we are apathetic, and if we lose them it will not be because they have been weighed in the balance and been found wanting, but because our more astute and ingenious and active enemies have so manipulated the political machinery that at some special moment of excitement they may be overturned. Against this effort it will be your duty, especially in the next election, to strive, and on no part of the United Kingdom does that duty press more heavily than on Scotland, which bears the forefront attack, and which has the greatest reason to value the privileges that our ancestors have handed down to them."

Mr. H. Fowler, M.P., presided on Wednesday evening at the house dinner of the National Liberal Club. In responding to the toast of "Mr. Gladstone and his Colleagues," which was proposed by Mr. J. Tomkison, one of the Liberal candidates for Cheshire, Mr. Fowler expressed the hope that at the approaching General Election, Mr. Gladstone, who was still at the head of the Liberal Party, would win the crowning victory of his great career. With reference to the exaggeration prevalent in certain quarters as to the extent to which the Liberal majority in Parliament had dwindled, it should be remembered that the late Premier never had a working majority of more than about fifty, and that when larger figures were shown in a division, it was only on those very few occasions when the Parnellite members voted with the Liberals, instead of voting, as they usually did, with the Conservatives. In criticising the circumstances under which the present Government had acceded to office, he did not hesitate to call it a Government of intrigue, alike in its inception, in its composition, and in the combinations upon which it depended. Did the Tories expect that Liberals were going to be silent as to the manner in which their estimable former Leader in the House of Commons had been kicked upstairs at the bidding of a rebellious faction? After the new Conservative Ministry had divided the spoils of office, their next intrigue took the form of a demand which would have deliberately gagged the House of Commons for the remainder of the Session. The specific guarantees they claimed were not granted, and their unworthy suspicions that Mr. Gladstone, or his colleagues, would be guilty of any factious, mean, or petty conduct was nobly answered by the magnanimous and truly statesmanlike speech of their illustrious leader on the previous night. It was very singular that the first outcome of Tory Democracy should be a Cabinet in which there was only one untitled person, and all of whose members, with two exceptions, were either Peers, or the sons, or sons-in law, of Peers. In the Government outside of the Cabinet there were no fewer than twenty-five Peers, and sons, or sons-in-law, of Peers. Moreover, this was the first time in the history of this country that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs had also been Prime Minister, and the innovation was apparently an attempt to break down a material difference which had always hitherto been maintained between this country and the autocratic military despotisms of the Continent. There had also been only one precedent, and that an obscure one, more than a century old, for separating the office of Premier from that of First Lord of the Treasury. The Liberal party objected to foreign affairs ranking as the first and foremost consideration with our Governments. Another innovation was the giving of a seat in the Cabinet to the Irish Lord Chancellor. The whole attitude of the Tory Government towards Irish questions was extraordinary, inconsistent, and significant. Mr. Parnell had seen the great Tory party place its neck meekly and submissively under the feet of the Irish Nationalists, deliberately abandoning every prophecy they had hitherto uttered, and denying every opinion they had hitherto expressed with reference to the condition of Ireland. It was no small thing to see the Irish Lord Chancellor and Mr. Plunket attached to the triumphal car of Mr. Parnell. The Tories had, however, made the way clear as to the policy which the Liberal and Radical party would adopt when they were again brought face to face with the privileged classes in Ireland, who had required the aid of so many thousands of soldiers and police in what seemed very much like the business of rent-collecting. Politicians had now to continue the practical work of the future. He desired to impress upon them them the necessity of union and the avoidance of sectional differences and divisions. After the passing of the Reform Act and the Redistribution Act we should cease from organic changes in the constitution and composition of the House of Commons, with a view to getting some good constructive legislation out of it, as it was now full time to deal with the condition of our own people. He believed that if the Liberals had a fair field, and put down mere obstruction, restoring the House of Commons to its proper freedom, dignity, and power, there was a future in store for them which would throw into utter insignificance all the past triumphs of Liberalism and settle the insurmountable distinction which ever had divided the Liberal from the Tory party. Mr. J. B. Shepherd afterwards proposed the toast of "The House of Commons," to which Mr. Brinton, M.P., responded. The only remaining toast was "The Health of the Chairman," proposed by Mr. H. G. Reid.

Mr. Mundella, M.P., who has been adopted as the Liberal candidate for the Brightside Division of Sheffield, addressed the electors on Wednesday evening at Osgathorpe Hills. Mr. Mundella explained that he intended to address them on Monday; but when he ascertained that a resolution was to be moved by Mr. Hopwood giving the right to any member, whatsoever his religious opinions, elected by any constituency of this nation, to come to the bar of the House and make an affirmation if he chose, before taking his seat, he felt it his duty to attend. He had no sympathy with Mr. Bradlaugh on religious questions, but he supported Mr. Hopwood's motion in the interests of the cause—which was one of the greatest and noblest in which England had distinguished itself—the cause of religious liberty. As to general politics, the nation was at the parting of the ways. The old things were passing, and in a few weeks or months we should begin a new political career. Last week they saw for the last time in English history the farce of great triumphs and Tory victories achieved by about four hundred voters. Three members of the new Government were returned, each of them polling less than five hundred men. They would hear no more of great contests fought under the eye of the squire, the bailiff, or the agent, in small, sleepy, rural towns, where men dared hardly say their souls were their own. In future the representatives would have some people behind them. Why was he (Mr. Mundella) in that constituency? It was because he wished to represent a constituency, not of loafers and drinkers, but of the toilers and thinkers. He had more confidence in the people and in Liberal opinions every day. A great change had come over the relative position of parties in the House of Commons. Land and liquor had been too strong for them. After five years of service there came a critical time in the history of the party. No man ever performed a task with greater sorrow than Mr. Gladstone when he asked for the vote of £11,000,000 for strengthening the forces. He never saw the Tories so full of applause and satisfaction as they were on that occasion. They were always in that condition when they voted money for armaments or when they were on the trail of war. But when the bill had to be paid and the taxes levied the Tories formed a close alliance with Mr. Parnell and his friends, and they put the suggested tax on beer and liquor to the front, but kept the death duties in the rear. The duties upon the succession to land were the real point which touched them. They defeated the Government, not without defection on the Liberal side. Weak-kneed Liberals brought about the defeat as much as the combination of the Tories; but it was, after all, the land question which was really behind. For the sixth time this century the Tories were in office as a minority. On the last five occasions they had, soon after taking office, appealed to the country, and in every instance they had been swept out. In November next history would repeat itself. He had no wish to anticipate the Budget, but he predicted that the Tories would do as they had always done—they would borrow the money, and leave the Liberals to pay the bill. Mr. Mundella proceeded at length to advocate, among other things, the necessity of altering the rules of procedure in order to expedite public business; of relieving an over-burdened Parliament of questions which could be referred to local bodies; of eliminating from the House of Lords the hereditary element; and of a comprehensive measure of land reform so as to secure increased employment, increased production, and increased home trade.

Mr. John Morley spoke at a Liberal meeting at St. Mary's Schools, Whitechapel, on Wednesday night, in connection with the candidature of Mr. Samuel Montagu. He commenced by remarking that the candidature of Mr. Montagu was a proof that they had once and for all got rid of religious disabilities. He congratulated them that in the new borough of Whitechapel there was not one of those miserable and disgusting "splits" which in some parts of the metropolis threatened the prosperity of the Liberal party. There was to be a straightforward fight between a real Liberal and as real a Tory as a man could be who was a Liberal a few years ago. He was afraid that in many cases they must put Liberal divisions down to personal pretensions and stubborn self-assertion. Independence was not always a virtue; and they must be aware of that counterfeit independence which was the outcome of egotism or self-seeking or vanity. If Liberals were to confront the coalition that overthrew the late Ministry, all the support that London could give would be absolutely needed. They would, in fact, need to win fifty out of the sixty seats. They could reasonably look for a solid vote in Scotland and Wales, and he might say in Durham; but determined efforts must be exercised in other directions. It was a satisfaction to know that few obstacles would be placed in the way of the present provisional Government—a Government which was in power by the will of the majority of the present House of Commons. Yet he maintained that the Ministry of to-day obtained the goods of office by false pretences. Still there was little reason to think that it could do the country much harm between now and the general election. They were told that the object of the Conservative Cabinet was to bring foreign affairs into such a condition that the new Parliament might concentrate its attention on domestic legislation. That was a consummation most devoutly to be wished; but could they really believe that foreign relations, left in the appalling and inextricable confusion that Tory leaders and Tory writers described, could be reconciled within three or four months? Why, the new Cabinet frankly confessed that they were going to walk in the paths which their predecessors had chalked out. About all the things against which they had been declaiming they did not intend to strike out a new line of their own. Not six months ago the present Chancellor of the Exchequer declared that we were bound to retain the control of the Nile valley as far as Khartoum. He was now in a position to make his words good, and if he did not, he, and those who applauded him, stood convicted of shirking in July the words which he spoke in February. It seemed clear to him that all the proceedings of the Tory party in relation to the affairs of the Soudan were frivolous, factious, and devoid of all serious intention and meaning. The Tory party told them that there was a great relaxation or lull in foreign affairs. They who only a little while ago warned the country with throats of brass that we were being humiliated and surrendered now assured them, after thirteen days of office, that the power of England was generally respected and universally feared. On the subject of Ireland, Mr. Morley remarked the new Ministry had taken a very violent line. Little could any mortal have thought that the first speech of Lord Carnarvon, as Lord-Lieutenant, would have been made in favour of one of his (Mr. Morley's) outcast amendments, and still less that it would have been backed up by the present leader of the House of Commons. He ventured to say that if the late Ministry had remained in power his proposition would have been denounced by the present Lord Chancellor for Ireland in terms strong, if mellifluous, as a concession to anarchy and chaos. But the same process which had made Mr. Gibson Lord Chancellor of Ireland had also converted him to a sense of the usefulness of the Crimes Act. Another distinguished Irishman, and now a member of the Government—Mr. Plunket — last year made an impassioned appeal to his friends not to yield to the pressure of political ambition and party exigencies of British statesmen. Were the political ambition and party exigencies of British statesmen now to be counted for nothing, and without the Crimes Act? It was truly a miraculous conversion! The Tory party had given them many surprises during the last fifty years, but none more startling than the declaration that they repudiated the doctrine that force was no remedy after all. Though a party man, he could not conceal his satisfaction at the conversion. He only regretted that the thing was not done by his own side. He asserted, however, with all deliberation, that if they compared the utterances of the Tory party at the present time with their utterances of six weeks ago, they would be found to be unexampled in the annals of political profligacy. The hon. gentleman concluded by discussing the fiscal policy of the Tory party, and condemning the suggested imposition of a tax upon tea and sugar. He resumed his seat amidst cheers, mingled with a few hisses, which had been faintly emitted at different points of his speech. The motion approving the candidature of Mr. Montagu was then carried, as also was one expressing unabated confidence in Mr. Gladstone and other leaders of the Liberal party.

Many members of Parliament were interested on Wednesday in examining a full-sized working model, which has been erected in the conference-room of the House of Commons, of a new style of polling-booth, which claims to provide a simple, self-acting mode of ascertaining, with unerring exactness, the result of a Parliamentary, municipal, or other election by ballot, as soon as the poll is closed, whereby complete accuracy is secured, secrecy is fulfilled, and illiterate voters are assisted. Instead of using voting papers, as at present, a metal disc or quoit is used, numbered consecutively from 1 upwards. The voter will advance to the front of the table of the presiding officer, and on proof that he stands numbered on the register to the satisfaction of the presiding officer, he hands the disc No. 1 to the voter, and directs him to the small secret chamber provided in the same room, where the voter deposits his vote. To assist an illiterate voter, each candidate, supposing there are three, previously selects a colour, and the voter on entering the secret chamber faces three small doors painted with these colours. He advances to the door bearing the colours of his candidate, excluding himself by the self-acting process from the other doors, and deposits his vote in a slot prepared for it, while a numbering instrument, covered and sealed, registers the vote for that candidate. More than ten electors can record their vote in one minute at one secret chamber, and several such chambers can be working in the same room if necessary.

Convocation.

PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY.

Both Houses of the Convocation of Canterbury assembled at Westminster on Tuesday for the despatch of business.

UPPER HOUSE.

The members of the Upper House met in the Boardroom of Queen Anne's Bounty-office—the Archbishop presiding.

The Bishop of London brought forward a notice relative to the late Bishop of Salisbury, and proceeded to say that the whole Church would desire to express its deep sense of the loss sustained by the death of the Bishop, who, owing to increasing infirmities, had not of late been an attendant at the sittings of the House. Dr. Moberly had made a deep impression upon his diocese—an impression which, no doubt, would be long-abiding. He had steadily discouraged everything which tended to discord or unnecessary controversy—though he was by no means one who shrank from controversy by the lack of clear opinions upon all points. The speaker then moved:—

That this House desires to place on record its sense of the loss sustained by the whole Church through the death of the Bishop of Salisbury, whose great learning, ability, loving character, as well as gentleness to all men, have endeared his memory to his countrymen, and have left an example for perpetual imitation. This House also desires to express its sympathy with the late Bishop's family in their bereavement, and its hope that they will find comfort in the esteem with which the late Bishop's memory is regarded.

The Bishop of Winchester seconded the motion, and spoke with deep affection of the late Bishop.

The motion was carried.

The House then sat *in camerâ* for some time.

When the House resumed, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol called attention to the danger which the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, already passed in the House of Lords, had of not being introduced in the House of Commons. In the interests of public morality, in the interests of female virtue, and in the interests of the national good name, he urged the measure should not be dropped, and he moved:—

That this House desires to express its gratification that this measure has received the assent of the House of Lords, and its deep conviction that there should be no delay with regard to the steps still necessary to be taken in order that the Bill may become law.

The Bishop of Peterborough, who was warmly received, expressed his pleasure at having the opportunity of seconding a motion of this character on his return to the House. He thought the Bill inadequate, but he accepted it as an instalment. The Bishop of Lichfield thought that if only particular clauses were left in that the measure still would be of good service. He desired to see, above all, protection extended to young persons. The Bishop of Oxford moved to add the words, "even if it (the Bill) be but a partial remedy for the evils which it is directed to cure." The Bishop of Winchester held that much remained to be done even if this Bill were carried, and he thought young men needed to be protected as well as young girls. The motion as amended was carried unanimously. The Archbishop thanked the House for passing the resolution and for the sentiments expressed, and it was agreed that his Grace should bring the resolution before the Home Secretary.

The House then adjourned.

LOWER HOUSE.

The Lower House assembled in the College Hall, Westminster. Lord A. Compton, the Dean of Worcester, occupied the chair as Prolocutor.

The Rev. E. Harwood, D.D., and the Rev. Charles R. Hale, D.D., members of the Triennial Convention of the American Church, were introduced and welcomed by the Prolocutor as visitors from the sister Church.

The House proceeded to consider the resolutions relative to the proposed House of Laymen which had been amended by the Upper House. Canon Gregory moved that the whole series of resolutions should be referred back to the committee for reconsideration and redrafting. The Dean of Llandaff objected to such a course as a cowardly attempt to shelve the whole matter, and after some discussion the Dean of Windsor moved as an amendment that the amendments of the Upper House be at once taken into consideration. The amendment was carried on a division by 36 to 34.

The rest of the day was occupied in considering the Bishops' amendments, and No. 8, which their Lordships had struck out, was reinserted in this form:—

That the subjects on which the House of Laymen may be consulted shall be all subjects which ordinarily occupy the attention of Convocation, saving only the definition or interpretation of the faith and doctrine of the Church.

A proviso added by the Upper House was amended and agreed to as follows:—

Provided that nothing in this scheme shall be held to prejudice the duties, rights, and privileges of this sacred Synod, according to the laws and usages of this Church and Realm.

The House then adjourned.

UPPER HOUSE.—Wednesday.

The House resumed the session in Queen Anne's Bounty Office, Westminster, under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Bishop of London drew attention to the report of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes. There was much difference of opinion as to the causes and as to the remedies for the mischief. Some of the witnesses put the moral cause before the economical and physical, while others placed the economical and physical causes above the moral causes. The report was a most able one, and his special purpose was to call attention to it. It was understood that the Government were about to bring in a Bill to deal with the evils described in the report. The Bill would be supported by both political parties in the State, because it would be introduced in the House of Lords by the Marquis of Salisbury, and Sir Charles Dilke would take it up in the House of Commons. He

hoped their Lordships would make a point of attending in their places in the House of Lords to support the Bill when it appeared. They should not abstain from taking their part in considering a measure on which the happiness and comfort, and, in the long run, the spiritual condition, of the people so very largely depended. There was not the slightest doubt but that a great deal of immorality arose from overcrowding, and a remedy which would effectively deal with overcrowding would have a spiritual as well as a moral bearing.

The Bishop of CHICHESTER agreed with the Bishop of London in this matter, and pointed out that inquiry into the evils of the present practice of housing the poor was as much needed in many provincial towns as in London.

The Bishop of ST. DAVID'S also alluded to the overcrowding of farm servants, which led to many evils.

After a few words from the Bishop of GLOUCESTER and BRISTOL the subject dropped.

Their Lordships considered and agreed with the resolutions relating to the proposed House of Laymen, as finally amended by the Lower House, and shortly afterwards adjourned.

LOWER HOUSE.—WEDNESDAY.

In the Lower House, Lord Alwyne Compton, the Prolocutor, in the chair, resolutions on the question of clergy incomes derived from land were considered.

Archdeacon LIGHTFOOT moved to add :—

That the Act 5 and 6 Victoria, c. 108, permitting incumbents with certain consents to grant leases of glebe lands for periods not exceeding 99 years, with a view to the erection of buildings or improvements of the land, is specially worthy of attention at the present time, and might advantageously be used in some districts in the creation of small holdings.

It was desirable to meet the desire for small holdings if it could be done; and as this Act enabled the incumbents (who were now mostly impecunious) to lease out their glebes in small holdings, it was worthy of their attention. He thought that small holdings would attract back again into the country many working men from the crowded towns. By that means they might revert to the time when the labourers had a far greater stake in the country than they had at this moment.

Archdeacon SHERINGHAM was of opinion that the Church, as the real friend of the working classes, should take the lead in encouraging the occupation of small holdings. The rural classes desired the possession of land, and some share in the property of the country.

Canon JEFFREYS objected to the resolution as being of no use. Small holdings required buildings, which cost a great deal to keep in repair, and to divide glebes in the way suggested would ruin the incumbents.

Canon HOLE did not believe in ever seeing the pleasant picture of working-men farmers on small holdings, for the simple reason that working men did not know how to farm and had no money to work a farm with. What were wanted were small holdings of about forty acres, three-fourths of which should be grass.

The resolution was agreed to.

Archdeacon EMERY brought up the report of the Committee on Queen Anne's Bounty, and in moving the resolutions attached to it said that the Bounty Fund was only £15,000 a year, but Queen Anne's Bounty Board, acting as bankers, dealt with upwards of £4,000,000. The Board consisted of 600 members, including the Archbishops, Bishops, the Speaker, the Deans of Cathedral Churches, all the Privy Councillors, Lord Lieutenants, Judges, and Mayors of all cities in the country, and others. The House then proceeded to discuss the resolutions, which, after some debate, were adopted in the following terms :—"That, in the matter of payment of First Fruits, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Board should strictly adhere to the provisions of 1st Vic., cap. 20, as to notice, and to those of the old Acts as to times and manner of payment. That the General Court of Governors be requested to appoint yearly the Executive Committee of their own body, and that their names be made public. That incumbents should have the option of having the dilapidation money placed on deposit at the current rate of interest on deposit accounts, in addition to that of having such money invested in Funds, as provided by Sec. 65 of the Act of 1871. That, when the capital belonging to benefices is invested at higher rates of interest than the public funds allow, the respective benefices should derive a proportionate benefit therefrom. That where loans are made on mortgage by Queen Anne's Bounty, it is desirable that interest should be charged irrespective of any consideration of profit by banking transactions undertaken with a view to benefit other livings through the Bounty Fund."

The House then adjourned.

UPPER HOUSE.—THURSDAY.

The Bishops assembled in the Queen Anne's Bounty-office—the Archbishop presiding.

After the minutes had been read by Mr. HASSARD and confirmed, the ARCHBISHOP announced that their Lordships would sit in committee to discuss the terms of a report for the remainder of the day.

The House then adjourned.

LOWER HOUSE.—THURSDAY.

The members of the Lower House reassembled at the College Hall, Westminster—Lord Alwyne Compton, the Prolocutor, in the chair.

Sub-Dean CLEMENTS brought up the fourth report of the Committee on the Election of Proctors to Convocation, appended to which was the full text of a memorandum on the representation of the clergy in Convocation by Lord Selborne, ex-Lord Chancellor. The committee did not accept the arguments or statement of facts as laid down by Lord Selborne, and emphatically demurred to the suggestion in the memorandum that the only power competent to reform or extend Convocation was Parliament. If there were no precedent for Convocation passing a canon having reference to its own representation, there was certainly no precedent for Parliament interfering with its structure, and such an interference would be productive, it was believed, of the most lamentable and far-reaching results. The desire for the increase of the number of diocesan proctors had long been earnestly entertained by the clergy and very frequently urged by them upon the House of Convocation. In conclusion, the Committee declared their judgment that it would be far wiser for the Lower House of Convocation of Canterbury to continue as it was than to request or to accept the aid of Parliament, even in order to secure the much-desired increase of the representation therein of the parochial clergy. It was resolved after some debate,

That this House earnestly prays his Grace the President and their Lordships of the Upper House to take the report into their early consideration, and, if they think fit, to submit it to the notice of Her Majesty's advisers.

Canon PERRY, in the course of the debate, delivered an elaborate speech, contending that the present Convocation was the successor of the ancient Synods of Canterbury, and that they had existed in continuity from the earliest period. It was an ecclesiastical assembly in all its parts, which had always been called together by the Archbishop under the licence of the Crown. The growth of the Church now required a fuller representation of the parochial clergy, and the reform they so earnestly desired should be pressed forward.

After some further business the House adjourned.

ARCHDUKE RENIER'S MANUSCRIPTS.

Under date of June 27, the Vienna correspondent of the *Times* writes :—

The discovery among Archduke Rénier's "El Fayoum Manuscripts" of a papyrus fragment inscribed with a portion of Holy Scripture parallel to but differing from St. Matthew xxvi. 30 to 34, and St. Mark xiv. 26 to 30, has been reported in the *Times*. It remains to give the original Greek text of the fragment as deciphered by Professor G. Bickell, of Innsbruck, and the restored text suggested by Professor Bickell and Professor Karabacek, of Vienna, who has charge of the whole collection of papyri. It will be noticed that the original text has 105 letters, and is arranged on seven lines. Ninety-six of these letters are plainly legible, nine are more or less indistinct at first sight, but can be deciphered on close scrutiny. The dots mark the places where letters or abbreviated words have been obliterated :—

..... ΦΑΓΕΙΝΩΣΕΞΗΓΟΥΠΑ.....
..... ΤΗΝΤΚΤΙΣΚΑΝΔΑΙΣ .....
.....ΤΟΓΡΑΦΕΝΠΑΤΑΞΩΤΟΝ.....
..... ΥΡΟΒΑΤΑΔΙΑΣΚΟΡΠΙΣΘΗΣ ..
..... ΥΠΕΤΚΑΙΕΠΑΝΤΕΣΟ.....
..... ΟΔΛΕΚΤΡΥΟΝΔΙΣΚΟΚ.....
.....Η\ρν .....

The reconstructed text is made to run as follows :

Μετὰ δὲ τὸ φαγεῖν, ὡς ἐξῆγον· πάντες ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ νυκτὶ σκανδαλισθήσεσθε κατὰ τὸ γραφέν· πατάξω τὸν ποιμένα καὶ τὰ πρόβατα διασκορπισθήσονται. Εἰπόντος τοῦ Πέτρου· καὶ εἰ πάντες οὐκ ἐγώ· ἔφη αὐτῷ ὁ Ἀλεκτρυὼν ὅτις κοκκύξει καὶ σὺ πρῶτον τρὶς ἀπαρνήσῃ με.

It will be observed that eleven letters comprising two whole words, *ἐν* and *ταύτῃ*, have been supplied between the first line and the second. The same number of letters with the whole word *κατὰ* are missing between the second and third. Between the third and fourth twelve letters forming the words *ποιμένα καὶ τὰ* have had to be added; between the fourth and fifth sixteen letters, including the whole word *εἰπόντος*, must be accounted for; and between the fifth and sixth twelve letters, including the whole words *ἐγὼ· ἔφη αὐτῷ*, are deficieet. The gap between the sixth and seventh lines is much larger, for it can only be filled by suggesting twenty-one letters with the whole words *καὶ σὺ πρῶτον τρὶς*, while six letters are required to complete the words *ἀπαρνήσῃ με* at the end of the seventh line. That the six letters suggested here are the right ones is obvious, but the word *τρὶς* added in the sixth line and indicating the number of times which Peter was to betray our Lord, can only have been obtained by a collation of the papyrus text with the passages in Matthew and Mark. Another word may have been originally written, for all that can be seen to the contrary.

It should be mentioned here that a telegraphist's error in the report which appeared in the *Times* of the 24th made it appear that Dr. Bickell had only added five letters in restoring the text. The sentence should have stated that, according to the opinion of Dr. Harnack, Dr. Bickell added "only *those* letters which it could be plainly guessed were the missing ones, and which mended broken words without altering the sense of a line." As will have been seen, Dr. Bickell has had to supply ninety-five letters. The papyrus, intact at the upper and lower ends, is frayed at the edges, but the width can easily be guessed, and the number of words which formed the line may be reckoned by line 7, which is almost complete.

According to the opinion of experts, the caligraphy, which is neat, slender, and cursive, belongs to the third century A.D.; but whether on the faith of so small a fragment the style of the composition can be assuredly said to date from the first century is a point upon which perhaps discussions may arise. If Dr. Bickell's contention be correct, the fragment is a copy from some portion of an early Gospel of which all traces have been lost. It cannot be a transcript from Matthew or Mark, because the striking prophecy recorded by those two Evangelists, "But after I am risen again I will go before you into Galilee," is omitted. This prophecy does not occur in Luke and John, though all four Gospels give our Lord's prediction of Peter's denial and also Peter's oath. The papyrus fragment must remain of great interest from bringing new confirmation to this important episode in Christian history, but the omission of the prophecy concerning the resurrection must in the judgment of Professors Bickell, Karabacek, Wessely, Krall, and Harnack, throw doubt on the question as to whether the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Mark were originally written in the form in which we know them now. Tradition asserts that Matthew wrote his Gospel eight years after the Ascension in the Syro-Chaldaic tongue, and that Mark's, which in some respects is but an abridged version of the Greek translation of Matthew's, was composed two years later. The date of St. Luke's Gospel has not been fixed, but St. John's is said not to have been written until the last decade of the first century—that is, upon the Evangelist's return to Ephesus after the death of Domitian. The commentators on the papyrus argue from this that if the prophecy omitted by Luke and John had stood in the early versions of Matthew and Mark any copyist of those versions would have been sure to transcribe it; and if, as they say, we assume that the papyrus is not a copy of some lost Gospel composed in the first century, but a third-century transcript from Matthew and Mark, then the difficulty would only be increased, for it would be shown that the omitted prophecy must have been added to to Matthew and Mark much later than the third century. There remains room for the supposition that the prophecy did find a place in the scripture from which the papyrus was copied, but was not set down in the order chronicled by Matthew and Mark. This, however, while leaving the accuracy of the two Gospels unimpugned, would support the contention that the fragment was copied—as Professor Karabacek and his colleagues believe—from a Gospel which has not been preserved.

THE POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS CONDITION OF AFRICA.

The anniversary meeting of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa was held on the 2nd inst. in the banquet-room of St. James's Hall, the Holy Communion having been previously celebrated at St. Paul's Cathedral, and a festival service held in St. Andrew's, Wells-street. The Bishop of Carlisle presided at the meeting at St. James's Hall, which was numerously attended. Letters expressing sympathy with the mission were announced from the Bishop of Lincoln and Lord Aberdare.

The Secretary read a summary of the report for 1884-5, which detailed at length the work of the mission, and, alluding to home affairs, expressed regret at the deaths of the Bishop of London and Sir Bartle Frere. With reference to the finances, the committee reported that, owing chiefly to many special gifts, the sum raised for the year past was larger than in any former year. The total from all sources was £14,036 10s. 11d. The cost of the mission during 1884 was £18,152 17s. 1d.

The CHAIRMAN, in his opening address, first alluded to the great loss to the friends of the mission by the death of the Bishop of London, to whom the committee were greatly indebted for the wise manner in which he exercised his discretion and the prudence which guided his actions. He also expressed regret at the death of Bishop Mackenzie, the glorious founder of the mission, who had lost his life on the Zambesi. Since his death the mission had had a varied history. There were great troubles to overcome in consequence of the supposed impossibility of maintaining the ground taken up by Bishop Mackenzie under Livingstone's advice. There was for a time great doubt as to what the future of the mission might be. Some thought that it would be an entire failure. It was not known whether, in consequence of the possibility of not being able to carrry it on as a separate work, it would have to be given over to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, or whether its geographical position should be entirely altered. He believed that it was a wise step to remove to Zanzibar as the ground and centre from which the mission should be worked, because by making that retreat they were enabled the better to make war upon the savagery of the African Continent. They had had abundant proof that God's blessing had attended that step. They had had their successes; but they had had, too, their roll of martyrs—men who had given up their lives, simply and earnestly, without complaint, for the great cause they had in hand. They had been accused of having been lavish of human life and of having lost it where it might have been saved. It might possibly be that there had been rashness in the case of Bishop Mackenzie concerning his own life, and that that noble rashness might have been infectious among some of his followers. But he did not know that on the whole they had been careless concerning human life. If they had been, let them mend their ways, and not foolishly throw away life or think that the providence of God was such that man could go against the laws of nature or afford to set aside the rules laid down by medical authorities, or that a man could trifle with his health because he was devoted to a great and glorious purpose. However cautious and wise the steps which were adopted with regard to the health and lives of those who went into the mission-field, the Central African mission-field must be a dangerous field, and men must go with their lives in their hands and must be prepared to sacrifice their health and comfort, and it might be their lives, if they were to do any good in such a difficult and dangerous field. He thanked God that the history of the Central African mission-field still showed that there was in the English people, priests, and Bishops a spirit worthy of the very best days of the Christian Church, and there was no lack of determination and courage in going forth to do the work which had been imposed upon every one of them. An increasing interest was being taken in Africa. What seemed to him a most important and interesting fact to the minds of all those who took an interest in Africa was the great congress concerning the interior of Africa and its civilisation, the congress connected with the settlement in the great Congo basin, where there was now a large and independent Power in the very centre of Africa—a settlement that had been made not at all with reference to Christian missions, but simply with reference to the development of the commercial powers and value of the country. That great movement seemed to him to be one upon which those who took an interest in the missionary side of the question might very well rest with a great deal of interest. The opening up of the interior of Africa to commerce must in the very nature of the case mean the introduction of civilisation into that great country; it also must necessarily mean the destruction of slavery; and it must ultimately tend very much to the progress of the Gospel. They could not have a large country profitable to the merchants of England, Germany, and Belgium, if that country was full of savage people and savage ways, and if it had only the religious superstition of savages. It would only prosper as a commercial country if it became a civilised country and the introduction of civilisation meant ultimately the introduction of the Christian faith. Therefore, although that movement might be a commercial or a political, or at all events a secular, one, he thought it right to to call attention to it as connected in an indirect manner with the objects of the meeting. If they looked at the map of Africa and saw the changes which had taken place since he was a boy at school, they would see that they were most extraordinary. When he was young, they had Egypt and Morocco marked on the north, and the Cape of Good Hope on the south, and the Mountains of the Moon, whatever they might be, in the centre, which mountains, he believed, were nothing more than a mythical invention of the map-makers, because they had nothing better to put in. Now the map was almost full in the centre of Africa, and instead of the Mountains of the Moon there was a system of inland lakes which must be worked up into a system of civilised populations in the course of the next half-century or century, and which would easily rival that great system of inland lakes which was to be found in North America. They would have the same kind of civilisation in Central Africa as they had now in the north part of the other great continent. So that if they looked now at the north, or the south, or the east, or, because of the Congo, to the west, they would find that the civilised man seemed, for evil or for good, to be creeping into all parts of the continent and making towards the centre, and it was only reasonable to suppose before many years were passed that the whole face of Africa must become changed. That might not be an unmitigated good for Africa. If it be a mere love of money or a mere pursuit of commerce which brought white men into Africa, it might mean simply the destruction of the native race, and do that which Christian people were desirous should not be done. But a movement for evil or for good had certainly started, and they must try and introduce into that great stream of civilisation—it might be secular and it certainly would be commercial civilisation—a fertilising, wholesome, health-giving strength of the message of the Gospel. Speaking of the responsibility of England and the English Church to that great and mysterious continent, he said that if they looked to the north or the south he would defy any one to look at it with any kind of satisfaction or self-gratification. Whoever had been to blame, and whatever the cause of the present condition of things, it was an undeniable fact that meddling and muddling had characterised the relations of England to Africa. In making that remark, he did so without any political bearing whatever, but it could not be denied that there was a terrible muddle on the north and almost as bad a condition on the south, and above all there was the terrible thought of one of the noblest of Englishmen having lost his life almost in the centre of Africa. They had not got his remains and they did not know what had become of them, and now General Gordon was simply a name, for they did not even know exactly how he died. It was a grievous thing to England that the political condition of Africa should be what it was. His only reason for referring to the political condition of Africa was that, whatever the cause or result of England having to do with Africa as a governing body—whether in Egypt on the north, or the Cape and adjacent colonies on the south—whatever might be said on that side of the question, their duty was perfectly clear. Their action with Africa was one which no Christian person could put on one side. If they were to go into Africa, either as a conquering or colonising or as a meddling and muddling Power, the Christian people of this country—the representatives of the English Church—were bound to do what they could to assist any good work that was going on, and to endeavour as far as possible to mitigate any evils which contact with England might have introduced.

Addresses were also delivered by the Rev. HORACE WALLER, General Sir H. LEFROY, Sir W. PHILLIMORE, and the Rev. P. L. JONES BATEMAN.

The Albany National Memorial Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen-square, Bloomsbury, was on Saturday afternoon opened by the Prince of Wales for the public use and benefit. His Royal Highness was accompanied by the Princess of Wales, Prince Albert Victor, and the Princess Louise, the Prince and Princess Christian, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Lord Chancellor. Including the site, the new hospital, when completed, will have cost not less than £80,000, towards which £7,000 is required for the building fund, and £3,000 for the cost of furnishing and equipment. The range of buildings is mainly of brick, the Queen-square elevation being red-coloured, and terra-cotta being largely used in the ornamentation. The floors and staircases throughout are of fire-proof construction, and are carried upon supports of fire-proof material. The building is designed upon the pavilion principle, so far as the formation of the site has allowed, thus securing on all sides light and air with thorough ventilation. The hospital consists of two ranges of buildings, each composed of a central structure and two wings, and styled the East and West Blocks respectively, with a third and smaller range, styled the Princess Christian (Powis-place) Block. The East Block and the upper floor of the Princess Christian Block contain the wards for male patients; the West Block contains the wards for female patients and for children. The ground-floor of the Princess Christian Block is devoted to the department for out-patients. The average ward space for each patient is upwards of 1,600 cubic feet. Meeting the eye of the visitor by the main entrance is a well-executed portrait of the late Duke of Albany, the work of Mr. Walter Goodman. The opening ceremony took place in a spacious pavilion, improvised for the occasion by throwing a canvas cover over the patients' recreation court, thus affording accommodation for some hundreds of ladies and gentlemen. At one end of the court stood a red-covered dais embowered by palms and tall ferns, and embedded in banks of roses and cut flowers. The choristers of the Chapels Royal and of Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's stood in the vicinity of the platform, and were supported by the band of the Royal Artillery. In the evening the combined choristers and the band of the Royal Artillery gave a vocal and instrumental concert.

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

CREPE IMPERIAL, for mourning wear.

"It is all wool, and yets looks exactly like crêpe, as it has the crinkled or crimped surface which is inseparable from that fabric. It is solid and most durable, being free from the elasticity of the more perishable silk crêpe which it so closely resembles, and yet it is glossy. It is made up effectively into costumes for deep mourning, when it is not compulsory to trim with crêpe, and will wear as long as the mourner elects to use it."—Extract from the Queen, the Lady's Newspaper.

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Miss M. HUDSON, Twyford, Derby, writes: "March 20th, 1885.
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Major FAKENHAM, Longstone House, Armagh, writes:
"February 23rd, 1885.
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CHARLES SEWELL, Esq., Cirencester, writes:
"March 24, 1885.
"You may like to hear that I have worn one of your Electropathic Belts with the most satisfactory results, for whereas I used to be constantly laid up with Liver attacks and Kidney disorders, I have been entirely free from such ever since I began to wear the Belt."

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JULY 11.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

Thus far the new Ministry has proceeded most prosperously and successfully in the discharge of the duties of government. Its declarations of policy have been favourably received, both abroad and at home. It is satisfactory to notice that no disposition has been shown by the leaders of the Radical party in the House of Commons to countenance factious opposition. The unhappy resolution not to attempt the renewal of the Crimes Act has at least had the effect of conciliating the goodwill of the Irish party, and checking all disposition to obstruction on the part of that small but energetic section of the Lower House. The declarations of Lord SALISBURY on the pending questions of foreign policy necessarily add but little to what was already known as to the course that will be pursued in Afghanistan and Egypt. The arrangement with Russia that was on the point of conclusion will, of course, be carried out. It is probable that the Russian Government will, under the altered conditions, recognise the futility of prolonging negotiations on the subject of the Zulfikar Pass. The Tory Government will not rely for the security of the Indian Empire either on Russian assurances or on Afghan good faith, but will, none the less, take care that Russian pledges are not broken with impunity, and if there should be cause to complain of Afghan treachery, they will not permit it to pass unpunished. In Egypt the policy of the Ministry is fettered by the action of the late Government. Thus with regard to the abandonment of the province of Dongola, it is discovered that without a new expedition it is out of the question at present to re-occupy the positions that have been wantonly surrendered, and that, in the opinion of the military authorities, the difficulties with regard to supplies and transport render it impossible at this season to undo what has been done in the way of evacuating the province. The picture that is drawn of the utter desolation that has fallen upon Dongola, and the complete ruin that has overtaken the inhabitants as a consequence of the Radical policy is grievous enough. The twelve thousand people who have fled in despair, are reduced to immediate misery and are threatened with famine and ultimate starvation will perhaps think that a heavy price has been paid for the gratification of the doctrines of Mr. GLADSTONE's Radical supporters.

In the Lower House a general concurrence has been manifested in the desire of the Government to wind up as speedily as possible the work of the Session. The proposal of Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH that the House of Commons should allow Government business to have precedence on every night of the week except Friday was frankly accepted by Mr. GLADSTONE and readily agreed to. With regard to legislation, the general principle is laid down that no attempt will be made to proceed with any Bills involving controversy. Thus the Crofters Bill and the Welsh Intermediate Education Bill are happily disposed of. It would have been well if the Medical Relief Disqualification Bill had been relegated to the same category. It is in itself a trivial matter, perhaps, but the principle involved is an important one. If it is cruel to deprive a labourer of his vote for taking a bottle of medicine from the Union, it is equally cruel to deprive him of his vote for taking a loaf of bread to save his children from starvation. The issue at stake is whether paupers are to have votes. And this is surely a contentious question. The Government, however, are ready to give facilities for the consideration of the Bill. The Bill to appoint a Secretary of State for Scotland and the Irish Labourers Bill are to be persevered with. And a Bill to facilitate the purchase of land in Ireland is to be introduced, although it is frankly declared that the only prospect of passing it at the present period of the Session lies in the absence of opposition. The Criminal Law Amendment Bill will also be proceeded with. The measure is one that requires the most careful consideration. Its provisions are of the kind that ought not to be agreed to in an outburst of sentimental enthusiasm. The warnings given by men like Mr. St. JOHN ACKERS, Mr. BROADHURST, and Mr. HOPWOOD ought not to be overlooked. The obscene publications of a disreputable evening print will at least have the effect of calling public attention to the Bill.

The fresh financial proposals that it has devolved upon Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH to make will not be altogether satisfactory to the country, and are avowedly not altogether satisfactory to the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER himself. The Budget of the late Government is in effect accepted, with the omission of the increased duties on beer and on successions. No attempt is made to provide for the increased deficit thus produced, and Mr. CHILDERS's plan of throwing upon the future the task of providing for the current expenditure is adhered to and developed. Under existing circumstances it was not to be anticipated that any other course would be adopted. It is, of course, objectionable that the whole burden of the extraordinary expenditure of the year should be thrown upon the payers of income tax. Exception must be directly taken to one statement of Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, which involves a highly dangerous financial heresy. He stated that we had reached the limits of taxation on all the most important articles of consumption, except perhaps tea. Mr. CHILDERS very properly at once challenged this sweeping assertion. In case of need—war, for instance—it would be clearly imperative that taxes on articles of consumption should be augmented, unless one limited class of the community is henceforward to bear all exceptional burdens of taxation. The abolition of the sugar duties by Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE was, as we pointed out at the time, a financial blunder. There is no sound reason why they should not in case of necessity be re-imposed. Some piquancy was given to the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER's statement by his incidental revelation of the financial incompetence of the late Government. Mr. CHILDERS stated that two millions of the vote of credit remained unexpended. It now seems that in consequence of blunders in the accounts of the Admiralty, £850,000 of this amount have been spent.

It would be useless to attempt to disguise the fact that the new Ministry has signalised its entry into office by a declaration on domestic policy that has created the worst possible impression upon its independent supporters throughout the country. The statement made by Lord CARNARVON in the House of Peers and by Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH in the House of Commons, that no endeavour would be made to obtain a renewal of the Crimes Act—that is to say, that Ireland would once more be abandoned to the mercy of the revolutionary forces of lawlessness and disorder—has been everywhere received by the Conservative classes with an unanimity of condemnation. Men hesitated to believe, notwithstanding the prevailing rumours, that a Conservative Government would be capable of a similar cynical disregard in office of the principles that had been firmly maintained in Opposition, or trusted, at least, that if it seemed possible to dispense with the exceptional powers that the Crimes Act confers upon the Irish Executive, it would be for substantial and convincing reasons. It is with dissatisfaction, not to say with dismay, that it is found that the Crimes Act is abandoned, and that only expressions of a sentimental reliance upon the good-nature of the Irish people are forthcoming to excuse its abandonment. Lord CARNARVON can scarcely be serious when he alleges the present comparative immunity from crime that is to be remarked in Ireland as an argument in favour of dispensing with the Act to which the diminution of crime is confessedly due. It is notorious that all the forces of disorder are still vigorous, that there is no change and no improvement in the lawless tendencies of large classes of the Irish populace. The fear of the law has held disorder in check for the past three years. When that fear is removed there is no security that Ireland will not once more pass under the reign of terror from which it was saved by the Crimes Act, and the firm administration of that Act by Lord SPENCER. It is an open secret that all official authorities in Ireland, all those who have the most intimate acquaintance with the condition of Ireland, vehemently disapprove of the policy of dispensing with any of the securities for the maintenance of law and order at the present time. If Lord CARNARVON could have justified his Irish policy by statements that it had the concurrence of the Irish Executive, he would not have failed to have done so. Lord CARNARVON and Sir WILLIAM HART-DYKE are too absolutely ignorant of Irish affairs for any importance to be attached to the opinions they may express or the dreams they may indulge in. The responsibility of acting on a similar question, where the lives and the fortunes of a large and loyal body of HER MAJESTY'S subjects are concerned, in defiance of the judgment and the protests of the vast number of those who can speak with impartial authority on the subject, is a very heavy one. If there is an outbreak of crime in Ireland this winter it will be little satisfaction to the families of those who are murdered, or to the victims of outrage, that Lord CARNARVON and his colleagues acknowledge to the full the heavy responsibility which they are incurring. We have been surfeited under the late Government with professions of a meaningless assumption of responsibility.

Of the absolute necessity for the renewal of the Crimes Act in the present state of Ireland no clearer proof is required than the fact that it was acknowledged by Mr. GLADSTONE, and that Lord SPENCER was prepared to resign the Viceroyalty and break up the Radical Government if the powers he considered essential for the maintenance of law and order were not confided to him. How strong the inducements must have been for the Radical Ministry to proclaim that so great was the success of their remedial measures that they were able to dispense with exceptional legislation is manifest. From this it is easy to conclude how clear the necessity for the renewal of the Crimes Act must have appeared. An equally strong proof of the importance of the renewal of the Act in the interests of law and order is furnished by the vehement hostility to this measure that is displayed by Mr. PARNELL and his followers. There are none of the provisions of the Crimes Act that can affect law-abiding men, but they are distinctly a terror to evil-doers. It is the very efficacy of the Act that renders it so bitterly obnoxious to Mr. PARNELL and the Irish Revolutionary party. As long as it rests on the Statute-book, even though its provisions remain, as for the most part they have remained, in abeyance, it exerts a salutary restraint on the activity of the National League. As soon as it lapses a fresh impulse will be given to the energies of the Irish Revolution, and its leaders will be able once more to work in accordance with their ascertained methods towards the extermination of Irish landlords and the achievement of Irish independence with the old pleasant feeling of security and the old certainty of impunity.

To excuse the course that the Ministry has adopted, the difficulty of passing the measure at the present period of the Session against the opposition that it would be certain to encounter in the House of Commons may be alleged. But the difficulty would certainly not have been insuperable. And in a case where the obligations of political duty are manifest the timorous shrinking from difficulty is indefensible. It is doubtless true that it would not be easy to pass a new measure, but if the Crimes Act had simply been included in the Acts that are annually renewed the possibilities of obstruction would have been few and easily disposed of. There is little reason to doubt that the support of a majority of the House of Commons would have been obtained. If this had been wanting the Government would at least have shown a loyal regard for principle. The reasons that have apparently influenced the Ministry are obvious enough. The convenience of conciliating Mr. PARNELL and his followers is abundantly evident. It will be possible now to bring to a speedy termination the labours of the Parliamentary Session. The influence of the Irish vote at the General Election in November is likely to be given to the Conservative candidates in the English constituencies. In the new Parliament it is already not obscurely intimated that Mr. PARNELL's strong contingent of some eighty or ninety Irish members will support the continuance in office of a Tory Administration. But for this assistance a price would have to be paid to Mr. PARNELL, and that price is one that an honest Tory Government could not pay, and that the Conservative classes would resist the payment of. It is Mr. PARNELL's avowed purpose to purchase from the exigencies of English parties the concession of Home Rule and Irish independence. Against acquiescence in similar political bargainings it is essential at the outset to protest in the most vehement manner.

By the narrow majority of 19 to 18 the London School Board has carried a resolution proposed by Miss HELEN TAYLOR in favour of Free Schools. The present London School Board is about to die a natural death, and it is to be hoped that the ratepayers will be sufficiently energetic at the approaching elections to secure for the future a more adequate representation of the common-sense and the intelligence of the community. To the abstract resolution that it has passed towards the close of its career no importance of course attaches apart from the indications it gives of the tendencies of the Radical party. Free Schools will become a political cry of Radicalism in the early future. The fact that this is a further development of State socialism will be the strongest recommendation to Radical theorists. And a further recommendation will consist in the fact that it will lead to the speedy destruction of Voluntary Schools and the consequent end of the existing system of religious education throughout the country. It may be questioned, however, whether Free Schools will be altogether a popular cry with the ratepayers; they naturally object to being taxed for the education of other people's children, especially for the kind of education that Board schools give. And the poor people whom Board schools are intended to benefit have the fiercest antipathy to the oppression which characterises the system. Free Food would be a much more sensible and more popular cry than Free Schools. For it is incontestable that the wretched children of the very poor stand much more in need of food for the body than food for the mind. And ordinary people would much rather be taxed to give a starving child a good dinner than to teach it French, drawing, and elementary mathematics.

IRELAND.

The decision of the Cabinet, announced by the new LORD-LIEUTENANT of IRELAND in the House of Lords on Monday, not to ask Parliament to renew, either in whole or in part, the expiring Irish Coercion Acts, is one which must, unhappily, be viewed by Conservatives with strong disapproval. Lord CARNARVON's defence of the Ministerial policy was doubtless plausible and effective, but far from convincing. With much that he said we can cordially agree. The objections that exist to special legislation were well and forcibly put by the VICEROY. When stringent legislation is intended to be permanent, it should be, as Lord CARNARVON said, of universal or general enactment. If, on the other hand, it is only temporary, it is a mere stop-gap, and after its expiration the same question has again to be faced. The weakness as well as the odious character of special legislation is sufficiently obvious. Its constant renewal at short intervals is a fruitful source of irritation amongst the people who are subjected to these coercive enactments. Thus, as Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH contended on Tuesday, special legislation, even when necessary, is still to a certain extent an evil in itself, as fostering a feeling of disaffection. All this we, as Tories, are fully prepared to admit. A policy of Coercion in Ireland has never found favour with the Tory Party. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's recent assertion that Coercion with the Tories is a policy, but with the Whigs only a hateful incident, was one of those shamelessly mendacious utterances of which no other public man in England occupying an equally high position would be guilty, and which even Mr. CHAMBERLAIN reserves solely for use on occasions when he is addressing an ignorant and credulous audience. Such a monstrous perversion of the truth was rightly characterised by Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH as "absolutely "ludicrous;" the fact being notorious that by far the greater number of Irish Coercion Acts have been passed under the auspices of Whig Administrations, while it has been under Conservative Governments that Ireland has experienced the greatest immunity from crimes and outrages. Therefore there is no reason whatever—quite the reverse—why the Tory party should favour the employment of Coercion in Ireland; and if a relaxation of the stringent rule of the last few years could be justified on adequate grounds, such a result would nowhere be hailed with greater satisfaction than among English Conservatives.

Unfortunately it is just on the very point whether such adequate grounds at present exist that most Conservatives are of opinion that the Government is actuated by a too sanguine view of the situation. Lord CARNARVON thinks it is now time to try how far we may appeal to the better feelings of the people who have for the last three years been subjected to this special legislation. The VICEROY points to the undoubted diminution in the amount of agrarian crime since the passing of the Crimes Act in 1882. But a glance at the figures shows that the diminution of crime was a sudden and direct consequence of the passing of the Act, and has not been followed up by any signs of a steady and permanent improvement. In 1878 there were 301 cases of agrarian crime; in 1879 the number rose to 860; in 1880, 1881, and 1882, the three years during which only the ordinary law was in force, the numbers were respectively 2,580, 4,439, and 3,433. Then, on the passing of the Crimes Act, we get in 1883 the sudden drop to 870, and a further decrease in 1884 to 762. What do these figures signify? They mean that we have got back to much the same state of things that we were in in 1879—that is to say, the period just before the former Coercion Act was allowed to lapse, when crime was already raising its head; and that we have *not* got back to anything like the original level of 1878. In other words, whatever decrease in agrarian crime has taken place is, so far as can be seen, entirely due to the exceptional pressure of Coercion, and not to any real lessening of the criminal temper among the people; and hence the presumption clearly is that the removal of that pressure is only too likely to be followed by a recrudescence of crime similar to that which followed from a like cause in 1880. That is the only lesson which we can draw from Lord CARNARVON's figures; and we are not aware that there is any other evidence adducible in support of the VICEROY's highly optimist belief that the time has come to try how far we may appeal to the better feelings of the Irish people. We cannot but think the foundation of this belief a rather slender one. The deliberate opinion of the late VICEROY in a matter of this kind surely carries with it the greatest weight. Lord SPENCER, as is well known, has declared a renewal of the Crimes Act to be so urgently needed that he would have declined any longer to be responsible for the government of Ireland unless the Act had been renewed. This emphatic declaration of the ex-VICEROY is the more remarkable, coming as it does from a member of the very Administration which five years ago committed the blunder, as Lord KIMBERLEY now confesses, of under-estimating the forces of Irish disorder. Everywhere the signs of Nationalist disaffection are still apparent. The much-vaunted Radical "remedial legislation" on Socialist lines has simply had the effect of further whetting the cupidity and greed of the peasantry; the Church, since Cardinal M'CABE's lamented death, seems almost wholly controlled by pronounced Nationalists like Dr. CROKE and the new Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. WALSH. As to the argument that it is grossly inconsistent to maintain Coercion with one hand while extending the Franchise with the other, it proves, not the wisdom of abolishing Coercion, but the abject folly of giving the Franchise to just those classes of the population who are most liable to fall a prey to the arts of agitators and sedition-mongers.

There is one consideration on the other side which is not to be left out of sight. Possibly the Nationalist programme in the immediate future may not include an increase of outrages in Ireland. A policy of outrage may not suit the present purposes of Mr. PARNELL who has good reason to feel confident that in the next Parliament he will be far stronger than he is in this, and who will be anxious to court the alliance of English Radicalism on behalf of Home Rule. How probable such an alliance is may be inferred from the extreme frankness of the article in the *Fortnightly Review*, which rumour ascribes to the inspiration of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. In any case, the Government, acting to the best of its judgment, has now taken its decision, and it only remains for us to hope that by a firm and vigorous administration of the ordinary law order will be preserved in Ireland. It may be that the experiment will succeed, and we need hardly say that we shall rejoice if our apprehensions to the contrary are unfulfilled. As the venture is to be made, there could have been no more appropriate way of announcing the new policy than that which was adopted by Lord CARNARVON. The VICEROY'S speech in the House of Lords was couched in the most hopeful and conciliatory language, and he certainly had every reason to be gratified with the cordiality of the popular reception which, on the following day, greeted his entry into the Irish capital. We are glad, too, that the Government should have taken this opportunity to state their intention of dealing with the question of Land Purchase on the lines of Mr. W. H. SMITH'S proposals of two years ago. The true remedy for Irish distress lies in the encouragement of the people's industry—an object towards which Mr. SMITH'S measure will largely contribute. Such efforts will in time produce their effect in the increased good-will of the Irish people towards England. But it is impossible to ignore the fact that there is a party, and a dominant party, in Ireland whom nothing can conciliate. If they refrain for a time from open violence, it is only because it suits their present purpose to do so. And it is for the sake of the Irish people themselves that we deprecate any relaxation of what still

seem to be much-needed guarantees of that internal peace and order without which it is hopeless to look for any real increase of national prosperity.

LORD SALISBURY'S FOREIGN POLICY.

The Prime Minister's brief but pregnant statement on Foreign Affairs in the House of Lords on Monday was marked by a vigour and a solidity which recall the celebrated Circular of April, 1878—that has been lately described with absolute accuracy as "one of the most masterly State Papers "ever issued." The tone of Lord Salisbury's speech may be taken as a proof that our Foreign Affairs are once more to receive that attention which is due to them as "the "affairs of the British nation abroad"—to cite Lord John Manners's recent quotation from Lord Beaconsfield. Already the good effect produced on the Continent by Lord Salisbury's statement is manifest in every capital in Europe. Both in official and in non-official circles it has been received with the warmest approbation. Even Russia is conscious of the advantage of having now to deal with statesmen who know their own minds, and who say plainly what it is they want, and stick to it. It is the prime merit of Lord Salisbury's statement in the eyes of Foreign Powers that it puts an end to the *régime* of doubt and vacillation in British policy. Nothing can be more irritating to any foreign statesman who has to shape his own course of action with reference to the attitudes of the various Powers of Europe, than to have to deal with a Power whose policy is always uncertain and ambiguous from week to week, whose resolutions of to-day are liable to be rescinded to-morrow, and whose plans are exposed to frequent shifting and violent reversal. Mr. Gladstone's Government erred more from its inability to make up its mind than from any other cause. It was this that betrayed our late rulers into all manner of contradictions and inconsistencies; which invariably led them to adopt even a right policy when it was already too late; which made them inconstant and infirm of purpose in keeping to the right path when they had found it. Disastrous as this was to our own interests, it was also a fruitful and perpetual source of difficulty and annoyance to other Powers. The result of the policy uncertainty was, as might have been foreseen, the absolute isolation of England in Europe and the combination of the European Concert against her. Now, on the other hand, it is quite evident that Lord Salisbury's statement has already done much to win back the goodwill of foreign Powers. And it has had this effect, not on account of any detailed programme that it contained—for that is just what was absent from it—but because it exhibited a sound business-like capacity for dealing with our foreign relations in a plain, straightforward, and consistent manner.

Lord Salisbury's remarks on the question of the Afghan frontier followed precisely the same lines as the policy which he had previously advocated when out of office. It is not by Treaties or Agreements that a permanently satisfactory settlement can be secured. What we have to rely on is, not the promises and protestations of Russia, not the friendship and sincerity of the Ameer, but the strength of our own right arm, as Lord Salisbury himself phrased it some months ago. We must be prepared to protect our own frontiers with the necessary bulwarks, and we must carry out the task of forming those bulwarks with vigour and rapidity. Such a policy is really the one best calculated to preserve peace. It minimises the danger of serious misunderstandings arising out of petty beginnings; while, on the other hand, it proclaims clearly beforehand what are the exact limits of England's claims in Asia. There could be no greater mistake than to be haggling with Russia over this or that particular point on the distant frontier of Afghanistan. Thus Lord Salisbury took care to let it be clearly understood that, if we hold Russia to her promise on the subject of the Zulficar Pass, it is quite independently of any question of the greater or less importance of that Pass to England or to Afghanistan. What is of importance, and of vital importance, is, as Lord Salisbury rightly maintains, "that we should establish in "the eyes of all who trust to us, or who depend "upon us, not only in Asia, but elsewhere, "but especially in Asia, that the word of Eng-"land once given will be sustained and "adhered to."

How terribly this wholesome principle has been neglected of recent years is a matter of history—a history which is for Englishmen of the saddest and most humiliating character. The last chapter of it has been written only this week in connection with the evacuation of Dongola. The correspondence just published between the Secretary for War and Lord Wolseley shows only too clearly how impossible it was for the new Government to undo the wanton mischief and dire misery which have resulted from the carrying out of the order of the late Government to abandon the province. The withdrawal of the British troops had already been effected, and the flight of the unhappy populace had taken place, when the new Administration took office. Anything more dreadful than the hardships of these poor people it would be difficult to conceive. To the number of nearly thirteen thousand souls they have been compelled to leave their homes and their means of subsistence, with the prospect of immediate starvation now staring them in the face. The deed is done now beyond recall, or the new Ministry would have done its best to avert so vast an evil. But it forms a horribly appropriate culmination of the bloodguilty career of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues—the sacrifice of this vast holocaust of human victims, exceeding in number those who have been given over to death by our late Humanitarian Government on any single previous occasion. But though it is now impracticable to re-occupy the territory evacuated without a new expedition, the Secretary for War has directed Lord Wolseley to complete the railway from Wady Halfa to Ferket, and to hold a portion of the province of Dongola. There is a poor comfort in the thought that we shall not abandon quite the whole of the Soudan to its fate. Meanwhile, the question presses how the onward movement of the Mahdi, who, as Lord Salisbury reminds us, is triumphant in his own belief, may best be warded off both from these provinces of the Soudan and from the frontiers of Egypt itself. We owe it to Egypt to ensure to her this security from a hostile fanatical invasion. We shall not abandon Egypt to her fate, nor leave her to become a prey either to attack from without or to disorder and chaos from within. Lord Salisbury is to be congratulated upon having spoken very firmly and plainly on this point. He says explicitly that the restoration of Egypt must be "a somewhat lengthened "process," and that the evils from which she suffers must be "steadily mended by a "cautious and circumspect policy." To effect this it is clear that time is needed. Here, again, Lord Salisbury is closely adhering to the policy advocated by the Conservatives in Opposition. We have often been at the pains to explain the character of that policy. The establishment of a formal British Protectorate could not be effected without a breach of the Treaties of Paris of 1856 and of Berlin of 1878, both of which guaranteed the Turkish Empire to the Sultan. The Tory policy is, on the one hand, to respect to the full the rights of the Sultan as Suzerain of Egypt. Hence the importance of securing the friendship and cordiality of the Porte in all our action in Egypt. This is precisely the point which, as is now known, Prince Bismarck has always insisted upon. On the other hand, the interests of England in the East demand her occupation of Egypt; and it is not possible at the present time to place any limit whatever to the period of that occupation. It is as well to be quite explicit on this point, because there is a strong tendency noticeable among French politicians to imagine that the British evacuation of Egypt is an event that may reasonably be expected to occur at some near epoch. Whatever may have been the probability of such a contingency under the *régime* of Mr. Gladstone's Government the case is altered now; and our French friends may rest assured, in order to save disappointment, that the British occupation of Egypt is practically permanent.

THE BRADLAUGH NUISANCE.

The result of the Bradlaugh debate in the House of Commons is a double source of congratulation to the new Government. It is no small thing that in the very first important Division that has taken place since their accession to office they should have been able to secure a majority of 44. In the next place there is every reason for satisfaction at the signal defeat of this renewed attempt to commit the House of Commons to the principle of what the Attorney-General—who, by the bye, made an exceedingly favourable impression by his first appearance in Parliament—aptly called a Bradlaugh Relief measure. Mr. Hopwood's Resolution was skilfully drawn up with the object of catching the votes of those who, though opposed to allowing Mr. Bradlaugh to take the Oath of Allegiance, might not be averse to legislation for permitting Atheists to substitute an Affirmation for the Oath. The overwhelming defeat of Mr. Hopwood's Amendment, in spite of the advocacy of so eminently Christian a statesman as the late Prime Minister, is full of significance. The House of Commons has not only once more declined to allow Mr. Bradlaugh to profane the Oath of Allegiance, but it has also refused point-blank to admit that any legislation whatever is demanded for the settlement of the question.

Some surprise has, not without reason, been felt at the conduct of the Speaker with regard to Mr. Bradlaugh's renewed intrusion into the assembly over which Mr. Peel presides Since Mr. Bradlaugh's last attempt to force his unwelcome presence upon the House, the legal bearings of the matter have been finally and authoritatively laid down by the Courts of Law. It was long ago settled that Mr. Bradlaugh could not lawfully make an affirmation in place of the oath. Now, however, it has been further decided that Mr. Bradlaugh is a person incapable of taking the oath. This being the case, it appears to us quite evident that it was the clear and undoubted duty of the Speaker, as soon as ever Mr. Bradlaugh had appeared at the table, to declare at once that he could not be permitted to take the oath, and to order his immediate withdrawal—just as the Speaker would have ordered the withdrawal of any other intruder. Mr. Bradlaugh was engaged in a deliberate attempt to commit an obvious illegality, and it was the Speaker's business to put an instant stop to such a proceeding. As the matter turned out, however, we cannot regret that the House should have had an opportunity of finally and emphatically recording its judgment against Mr. Bradlaugh's claims, and against the proposal for permitting an affirmation. Mr. Gladstone's allegation that Northampton is suffering from a grievance on account of Mr. Bradlaugh having been refused permission to take his seat has already been answered again and again. Neither Mr. Gladstone nor the other supporters of the Bradlaughite claims have ever condescended to refute the counter-argument that Mr. Bradlaugh's presence in the House of Commons would be a distinct grievance to the country at large. What can be a greater grievance than to be governed by a man whose right performance of his duty is not safeguarded by a belief in the Deity? Mr. John Morley has since endeavoured at Whitechapel to raise the parrot-cry of "religious intolerance," as though the interests to be considered were those of Mr. Bradlaugh, and not those of the people at large, upon whom Mr. Morley desires to impose Mr. Bradlaugh as a legislator. The reason why affirmations are allowed in courts of law is not for the purpose of giving extra privileges to Atheists, but, as the Attorney-General showed, in the interests of justice, so that evidence which is forthcoming may be obtained.

Mr. Gladstone's contention that the claim of Northampton to be represented by Mr. Bradlaugh is "constitutional," and that his exclusion is "a grievous wrong" and an "illegal" act, simply begs the whole question at issue. The claim of Northampton is *not* constitutional: it is exactly the reverse. Northampton has no more right to demand Mr. Bradlaugh's admission than it would have the right to be represented by a peer, or a clergyman, or a woman, or a minor, or an idiot, or a felon. Mr. Bradlaugh has been pronounced by law as incompetent to take either the oath or an affirmation as any of the classes of people above-named would be to sit in the House of Commons. For Mr. Gladstone to say that the conduct of the House towards Mr. Bradlaugh is "illegal" is simply to seek to override the authority of the Courts of Law by his own *ipse dixit*. As for Mr. Labouchere's ridiculous plea that Mr. Bradlaugh had been returned for Northampton no less than four times, it makes not the slightest difference whether it be four times or forty times—except to illustrate the pig-headed incompetence of the Northampton Radicals to choose a decent representative. Not a single speaker on the Bradlaughite side made out the ghost of a case for reconsidering the question; and the reintroduction of the subject was a perfectly gratuitous waste of the time of Parliament, which was only compensated for by the opportunity which it afforded of, it is to be hoped, finally disposing of what has proved to be a standing nuisance in the present Parliament.

ETON AS IT IS.

If ever there was a public school doomed to live in the fierce light which traditionally beats upon a throne, that school is Eton. Whatever happens there, whether it be a projected visit from Messrs. Moody and Sankey, or the dismissal of an assistant-master, is eagerly canvassed in the public press. We may either say that this evil has been aggravated, or we may aver that this benefit has been enhanced to a peculiar extent within the last twelvemonth. Since Dr. Hornby succeeded to the Provostship, praise and dispraise have been more rife than ever. The latter has culminated in an article in the January number of the *Nineteenth Century*, entitled "Confessions of an Eton Master," written by Mr. H. S. Salt, and given to the world some weeks at least after Mr. Salt ceased to be an Eton master. On the other hand, the best exponent we can find of the real nature of the school is an Eton master of the present, Mr. G. E. Marindin, who writes "Eton in Eighty-"five" in the June number of the *Fortnightly Review*. Of Mr. Salt it is enough to say that he imitates Napoleon and centres his attack on one great bulwark of Eton—the tutorial system. This, he says, is bad. But though it is, it is kept alive, on Mr. Salt's showing, because the tutors make large incomes by it. In fact, it is to be laid at the door of the *auri sacra fames*. We refuse to believe this. A highly cultivated man of the class from which Eton masters are drawn can always turn his leisure into money if he be so minded. And the great advantages which result from the *rapprochement* of tutor and pupil Mr. Salt is honest enough to mention once, but one-sided enough to ignore afterwards. Nor need we stop to inquire with what grace this onslaught is headed by one who confesses that he has flourished on the system man and boy for fifteen years, spending five years as a "colleger" on the Foundation, an interval at Cambridge as an Eton scholar of King's, and then ten years at Eton as a master, thriving on this avaricious trade. The fable which seems to have been the most after Mr. Salt's own heart is that of the Old Bird and the Rolling Stone, the moral of which is, if we remember our Æsop aright, Never use vulgar expressions to a stone unless it is firmly embedded in a wall. While a tutor may eat the bread of affluence, let him consume his soul in silence. It is only when that bread is no longer on his table that he may turn and rend the giver of it.

Mr. Marindin's defence of his school has the ring of genuine metal. It is a defence of Eton, and it is incidentally a defence of Dr. Warre's *régime*. Mr. Marindin is not the misguided man who writes that whatever is, and is at Eton, must needs be right. He tacitly admits the necessity of marching with the times, and he concerns himself to show how far Eton has advanced in the path of reform. Now the head and front of her offending is, in most men's eyes, the idleness of the majority. All admit her ability to turn out young men of the world like Coningsby and Buckhurst, or—to turn to real life—soldiers such as Lord Wellesley and Lord Lyttelton, and poets such as Praed and Frere. But these are, we are told, the exception: the mass of boys are illiterate and indolent. The principle has always been to let a boy do his own work in his own way, when and where he pleases, so that it is ready for the master's or the tutor's eye at a given time. Just as there are no bounds to his physical freedom—he can go practically wherever his feet can carry him, so that he is home by a stated time for "absence"—so the rule has been to leave the boy's mind to take its own course, when once he has reached the age or position in the school that qualifies him to choose. He writes his verses on his theme in his own room, or, if he pleases, in the "Playing Fields," and so long as the tutor has it by the time appointed all is well. Favourable as may have been the consequences of this liberty to the few, true it is that they gained while the many suffered. Nowadays, it is among the men of a generation which is passing away that we find the real affection for the classical learning of their youth. We have ourselves heard a veteran scholar of the old type beguile the tedious hours of a night in an Italian train by capping verses, first from one classic then from another, till morning broke. True, this was a small thing. But it was a sample of the mental training of the past, by which the few only were wise enough to profit. Now, says Mr. Marindin, the object is to make the meshes of the net smaller and smaller, to drag in the small fry, which are, after all, the bulk of the

schoolmaster's "take," whether they are willing to come to the shore or no. In the Eton "whole school day" there are now, it appears, five schools of three-quarters of an hour to an hour apiece. That is the *quantum* on three days of the normal week. On three other days, which are "half-holidays," there are three schools of the same duration. And on the not uncommon "whole "holiday," there is one school. So much for the Eton day. Of what is done in the day in the way of work there is a plethoric list. Greek and Latin are the staple. But, if we may believe Mr. MARINDIN, "the average "knowledge of mathematics and industry in "this subject have increased and are increas-"ing," and a boy of mathematical proclivities may now in the upper part of the school "indulge his genius" and give much of his time to his favourite study. French is compulsory, and its importance is measured by four hours a week. German and Italian remain optional. Science is taught throughout the school, and there is a wide choice of "extra studies" among which a boy may range as he will, though he must take up one or more. Certainly no complaint can be made on the score of paucity of subjects. Nor, indeed, of examinations. There are "trials" three times a year, there is the examination of the first hundred boys for certificates in the summer, and there are the preparations for scholarships and matriculations, for Woolwich and Sandhurst. The tale of bricks is a full one, but what of the straw? "If we turn to the evidence of the "Universities, it is shown in the list of the "Eton honours just published in the School "List, that in the last ten years at Cambridge "57 first-classes and 71 University prizes and "scholarships, at Oxford 73 first-classes (in "Moderations and Final Schools) and 39 "scholarships and fellowships, have been ob-"tained by Etonians." These, however, are the "pattern boys." What of the "uncon-"sidered many"? We are fain to take the same criterion at Mr. MARINDIN, who "happens "to have a fairly correct list of classes, "below the first, obtained by Etonians in "honour schools at Oxford during the last five "years." The analysis of this list shows that between ninety and a hundred Etonians have obtained honours of some kind at Oxford in the last five years: that is to say, fully one-half of those who go up to the University, for the average number of those who go from Eton to Oxford seems to be less than forty in each year. This is the result, and by it alone can the world judge. Whether this outcome is one to justify Mr. SALT'S jaundiced diatribes we must leave to our readers. Whether or no "the fine soil of Eton be overgrown with "many weeds," whether or no its "good "material is hampered by rusty and antiquated "machinery"—we may fairly say that the Eton of to-day gives good promise for the Eton of the future.

Reviews.

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD IN AMERICA.*

Mr. Matthew Arnold was not quite the success as a lecturer in the States which he expected. But the reason of his want of success was elocutionary rather than literary, and the three *Discourses in America*, which he has now republished, are eminently readable. The first of them, that on Numbers, has appeared in the *Nineteenth Century*, and the second is a recast of his Rede Lecture on Literature and Science, originally delivered at Cambridge; but the third, that on Emerson, given in Emerson's "own delightful town," is now for the first time printed. It is to it, therefore, that we shall mainly confine ourselves, though there are many parts of the essay on Numbers which are worth quoting, and that on Literature and Science is an eloquent appeal on behalf of a classical education against the onslaughts of what we may call—borrowing a term from school language—"the modern side." The lesson drawn from the story of the youth at the training college who, while he knew all about the moon's diameter, thought it a good and sufficient paraphase to render—

Cans't thou not minister to a mind diseased?

by

Can you not wait on the lunatic?

is as full of truth as it is of humour. Nor must we omit to quote from the preface to the three discourses the following characteristic passage:—

Our middle classes, the great Philistine power, have no perception of our real relations to the world abroad, no clue, apparently, for guidance, wherever that attractive and ever-victorious rhetorician, who is the Minister of their choice, may take them, except the formula of that submissive animal which carried the prophet Balaam. Our affairs are in the condition which, from such parties to our politics, might be expected. Yet amid all the difficulties and mortifications which beset us, with the Barbarians impossible, with the Philistines determining our present course, with our rising politicians seeking only that the mind of the Populace, when the Populace arrives at power, may be found in harmony with the mind of Mr. Carvell Williams, which they flatter themselves they have fathomed; with the House of Lords a danger, and the House of Commons a scandal, and the general direction of affairs infelicitous as we see it,—one consolation remains to us, and that no slight or unworthy one. Infelicitous the general direction of our affairs may be; but the individual Englishman, whenever and wherever called upon to do his duty, does it almost invariably with the old energy, courage, virtue.

But to return to Emerson. The estimate which the lecturer has formed of the great Bostonian will seem somewhat exaggerated to all but thoroughgoing Emersonians, for whom, as for the lecturer himself, Boston Bay and Concord have become names invested with a sentiment akin to that which invests the names of Oxford and of Weimar. At the same time Mr. Arnold does not place him among the great poets, or even among the great men of letters—it is interesting to note the list which he gives of these great men: "Cicero, Plato, Bacon, "Pascal, Swift, and Voltaire"—or "the excellent "markers and recorders of the traits of human "life," like Montaigne, La Bruyère, and Addison. But at the same time he pronounces the deliberate opinion that "As Wordsworth's poetry is, in my "judgment, the most important work done in "verse in any language during the present "century, so Emerson's essays are, I think, the "most important work done in prose." The most interesting passage of the essay, though it is all interesting, is that which describes to us a greater than Emerson, and leads up to a comparison between the man of soul and genius visible in the flesh to the Oxford undergraduate of forty years ago and the man of soul and genius visible in the flesh to the dwellers at Boston of the same generation. The following passage, with which the lecture on Emerson opens, shows the lecturer at his best:—

Forty years ago, when I was an undergraduate at Oxford, voices were in the air there which haunt my memory still. Happy the man who in that susceptible season of youth hears such voices! They are a possession to him for ever. No such voices as those which we heard in our youth at Oxford are sounding there now. Oxford has more criticism now, more knowledge, more light; but such voices as those of our youth it has no longer. The name of Cardinal Newman is a great name to the imagination still; his genius and his style are still things of power. But he is over eighty years old; he is in the Oratory at Birmingham; he has adopted, for the doubts and difficulties which beset men's minds to-day, a solution which, to speak frankly, is impossible. Forty years ago he was in the very prime of life; he was close at hand to us at Oxford; he was preaching in St. Mary's pulpit every Sunday; he seemed about to transform and to renew what was for us the most national and natural institution in the world, the Church of England. Who could resist the charm of that spiritual apparition, gliding in the dim afternoon light through the aisles of St. Mary's rising into the pulpit, and then in the most entrancing of voices, breaking the silence with words and thoughts which were a religious music,—subtle, sweet, mournful? I seem to hear him still, saying: 'After the fever of life, after wearinesses and sicknesses, fightings and despondings, languor and fretfulness, struggling and succeeding; after all the changes and chances of this troubled, unhealthy state,—at length comes death, at length the white throne of God, at length the beatific vision.' Or, if we followed him back to his seclusion at Littlemore, that dreary village by the London road, and to the house of retreat and the church which he built there,—a mean house such as Paul might have lived in when he was tent-making at Ephesus, a church plain and thinly sown with worshippers,—who could resist him there either, welcoming back to the severe joys of church-fellowship, and of daily worship and prayer, the firstlings of a generation which had well-nigh forgotten them? Again I seem to hear him: 'The season is chill and dark, and the breath of the morning is damp, and worshippers are few, but all this befits those who are by their profession penitents and mourners, watchers and pilgrims. More dear to them that loneliness, more cheerful that severity, and more bright that gloom, than all those aids and appliances of luxury by which men nowadays attempt to make prayer less disagreeable to them. True faith does not covet comforts; they who realise that awful day when they shall see Him face to face whose eyes are as a flame of fire, will as little bargain to pray pleasantly now as they will think of doing so then.'

This may seem but remotely connected with his more immediate subject, but the connection is at once apparent when we find Mr. Arnold telling his Boston friends how there came to him in that old Oxford a clear and pure voice from across the Atlantic which for him, at any rate, "brought a strain as new, and moving, and un-"forgettable as the strain of Newman or "Carlyle or Goethe." He endeavoured, when he found himself in Emerson's own country, to come to a real estimate of Emerson, both as a poet and as a prose writer, finding in the style and cadence of his poetry a reminiscence of Gray, and passages not unworthy of the pureness, grace, and beauty of the English poet. It is a curious coincidence that Mr. Arnold's comparison of Emerson with Gray should have appeared just at a time when Mr. Lowell's graceful tribute to the latter is fresh on our memory. But it is on Emerson the philosopher, rather than on Emerson the poet, that he delights to dwell, while acknowledging with regret how different the actual generation in America is from the sanguine ideal of the philosopher.

RUSSIA IN CENTRAL ASIA.*

"The idea of publishing in this country an "English version of the chief German and Russian "work, hitherto untranslated, relating to the "progress of Russia in Central Asia," which is the leading idea of a series now in course of publication by Messrs. Harrison, is a very good one. Captain Stumm's work on the casues which led to the Khiva expedition in 1873, and the preparations which preceded it, forms an admirable commencement to the promised series. For it supplies a summary of the circumstances attending the advance of Russia since the days of Peter the Great, which is a fitting prelude to the long history of aggression which the volumes that follow it will have to record. Such an historical sketch as that here given is of great value, and as the writer has no political bias, and certainly no prejudice against the Empire of the Czar, his statements may, perhaps, attract the attention of those who are apt to turn a deaf ear to what they contemptuously call "alarmist" literature. But nothing really more alarmist than can be conceived that a plain unvarnished statement of Russian progress, and the map prefixed to *Russia in Central Asia* is enough to open the blindest eyes, provided they are not wilfully blinded. The date of each fresh advance is marked upon it, and the most careless reader can see at a glance the leaps and bounds by which, of late years, the boundary of the Russian Empire has been brought to Afghanistan. At present Penjdeh is not within that boundary, but the map brings clearly before us how important a step towards Herat General Komaroff has made, though the step is a comparatively short one compared with the gigantic strides made since 1860. One of the most important of these strides was the annexation of Khiva, and the actual account of the famous expedition which led to it is reserved for the second volume of the series. That already published contains a historical sketch of what we may call, borrowing a phrase from the late Mr. Green, "The Making of Russia in Central "Asia," and details succinctly the history of the expansion of the empire from the end of the sixteenth century to the present day—from Peter the Great to Komaroff. It also gives a full description of the preparations made when once the fiat had gone forth *Delenda est* Khiva, and a sketch of the military districts of the Caucasus, Orenburg, and Turkestan, which formed the bases of General Kauffmann's operations. The next volume is to give a purely military account of the expedition. The author's qualifications for his task are undoubted, while he possessed special opportunities for the compilation of the narrative from having been allowed to accompany the Russian expeditionary force in an official capacity. His style is not in itself very lively, and his translators have not done much to enliven it, but as a valuable storehouse of facts it is independent of attractions of style. Not the least interesting parts of the present volume for the general reader, and apart from its political importance, are the sketches which it gives of the fearful sufferings of General Perovski's force in 1839-40, and of the mode of life of the Russian troops when in garrison in Turkestan. We should mention that in addition to the map to which we have referred as bringing out so forcibly the stages of the Russian advance, there is an excellent large map which enables the reader to follow the narrative. If the other volumes of the series are of equal merit, the series itself will be quite indispensable to the student of Central Asian politics.

CROCODILE-WORSHIP.*

You would certainly not, gentle reader, have thought of turning to a Father of the Church for a description of Revolutionary government, and yet see what Clemens Alexandrinus tells us in one of his works. The sanctuaries of the Egyptian deities, covered with draperies of gold tissue, offered a mysterious and solemn appearance, predisposing the worshippers to respect; but if a stranger, excited by curiosity, felt anxious to look beyond those draperies, and to discover what sort of being was the recipient of the homage and prayers of the faithful, he met a crocodile or some similar loathsome animal wallowing on a carpet of the richest purple. We question very much whether any better or more accurate illustration could be given of the Revolutionary idol; we do not claim the merit of having found it out, but we thoroughly endorse M. Taine's views, and the state of France at the present time bears out in every respect the severe remarks made by the historian on the outcome of Jacobinism. We had often for the last fifty years been told that our doubts as to the healthful results of Revolutionary rule arose from the fact that up to the present time that government had never had fair play; let all the traditions of Monarchical *prestige* be swept away, let the worn-out institution of the *ancien régime* be consigned to the lumber-room of political archæology, and then, under the benign rule of Freedom, Equality, and Fraternity, France would enter upon an era of unparalleled happiness. Well, the new order of things has dawned; the Revolution has given all it could give, and we have, at any rate, the satisfaction of knowing that it is scarcely possible for a nation to sink lower than has done the country which still worships Robespierre and Marat as the ancient Egyptians worshipped the sacred crocodile.

M. Taine's bill of indictment is a severe one, we grant; but we defy any impartial judge to find it exaggerated, and the historian, let us remember, who exposes so fearlessly the crimes of Jacobinism, its blunders and its ignorance, is also the one who denounced with unsparing vigour the faults and the iniquities of the *ancien régime*.

It seems quite evident that the origin of the Revolutionary movement must be looked for in the system of philosophy which reigned in Europe towards the end of the eighteenth century. The men whom the events of 1789 brought to power saw their fellow-creatures through the prism of Jean Jacques Rousseau's "social compact," and instead of making laws appropriate to the society of the eighteenth century, they framed an absurd Constitution, adapted only to creatures of fancy, which never existed in real life, and which could not possibly exist. Then, finding that the persons with whom they had to deal did not correspond to their cherished dreams, they turned upon them with an amount of ferocity equal to their previous disappointment.

If the government falls into the hands of cut-throats, it is not difficult to know what will be the result. M. Taine is the last man to refuse a certain amount of ability to the leaders of the Revolutionary movement; but they had not the faintest knowledge of political science, they mistook rhetorical declamation for wisdom, and allowed gradually the executive power to be wielded by wretches whose only argument was the guillotine.

M. Taine has admirably succeeded in proving that the Reign of Terror began long before 1793, although it was not legally organised till then. Anarchy dated from the taking of the Bastille, and the incredible weakness of the King and his advisers naturally led to a state of social dissolution which reached its climax with a rapidity hastened by the remissness of some and the ambition of others. When Chamfort uttered his famous *mot*, "War to the *châteaux*, peace to the cottages," the Reign of Terror may be said to have commenced. The volume we have now before us is divided into five books, treating respectively of the establishment of Revolutionary government, the Jacobin programme, the rulers, the ruled, the catastrophe. All these various subjects are discussed by our author with the completeness to which his previous works have accustomed us, and the illustrative matter in the shape of notes is so abundant that not one of the propositions put forth by M. Taine comes without the support of undeniable facts and statements which are beyond all controversy. Amongst the many chapters to which we would draw the attention of our readers, and which want of space compels us to dismiss with a bare notice, we must mention the two first of the third book, which contain striking sketches of all the Revolutionary leaders; it is a kind of panorama or kaleidoscope, in which Marat, Danton, Robespierre, Couthon, Saint-Just, Billaud-Varennes, *e tutti quanti*, appear before us, characterised in a few telling words. The "friend of the people," devoured by ambition, who would have been a schoolmaster at five years old, a professor at fifteen, an author at eighteen, and a *creative genius* at twenty, was surprised and exasperated at seeing his talents unrequited, his learning called in question, and his critical powers slighted. After having been tossed about Europe, and having vegetated in Paris, as M. Taine remarks, for the space of thirty years, he found himself one day invested with absolute control over the guillotine, and he took joyfully the opportunity of paying off his old scores.

One of the curious circumstances in the history of the Revolution is that, although it originated for the benefit, as it was loudly proclaimed, of the *governed* classes, it speedily proved itself to be carried on exclusively in the interest of the *governing* ones. The great apostle of the new society, Jean Jacques Rousseau, had preached with all the eloquence of sophistry that man must be regenerated by becoming either willingly or by force a mere element in the machinery of the State; hence the State, represented by the governing members, expect that everything shall be sacrificed to them; they are the proprietors of persons as well as of goods and chattels; they direct religion, they control education, literature, thought, feeling, charity; and their pretensions in this respect are so ambitious, their views of regenerated society are so extraordinary, that they regard it not only as a right but as an absolute duty to carry them out, if necessary, by main force. How truly did Mdme. Roland exclaim, whilst ascending the steps of the guillotine, "O "Liberty! what crimes have been committed "in thy name!"

The *coup d'état* of Brumaire 18th came to put an end to this state of things, but only by changing the character of the prevailing despotism, not by doing away with it altogether, and this, apparently, will be for some time at least the destiny of France. Bonaparte himself said that "he had "brought about the alliance of philosophy and of "the sword;" he inaugurated the best system possible to destroy the noblest parts of human nature; and he constructed, to quote once more M. Taine, "the metaphysical barracks within the "walls of which France has been living for the "last eighty years."

The First Consul was a crocodile far superior to Robespierre, Danton, and Marat, but still he ruled as the embodiment of the Revolutionary principle. He had his worshippers, and if military glory rendered his sway more tolerable, we must not forget that it was still the "Reign of Terror," however disguised under purple and tinsel.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

We are not sure that, as a rule, books on health are very healthy reading, and the student of them is too often apt to develop an unwholesome hypochondria. But we must make an exception in favour of the *Helps to Health* of Mr. H. C. Burdett (Kegan Paul and Co.), in which the writer has brought together a collection of first principles unencumbered by technical detail. Mr. Burdett is well qualified to deal with such a subject, and has enlisted the aid of many friends with special experience in the various departments of his subject. The result is a book of great utility, which has the advantage of being thoroughly practical, an advantage which is by no means possessed by all contributions to this class of literature. We should, however, venture to demur to the correctness of his disparaging views as to a moderate use of alcohol.

The volume of *Exercises in Latin Prose Composition* which Professor Ramsay has supplied to the Clarendon Press has reached a second edition, and the learned compiler has taken the opportunity to give to it a thorough revision, including

* *Discourses in America.* By Matthew Arnold.—London: Macmillan and Co., 1885.

* *Russia in Central Asia: the Expedition to Khiva.* By Hugo Stumm. Translated by J. W. Ozanne and Captain Sachs.—London: Harrison and Sons, 1885.

* *Les Origines de la France Contemporaine.* Par H. Taine, de l'Académie Française. "La Révolution III.; Le Gouvernement Révolutionaire." 8vo.—London and Paris: Hachette.

the re-writing of a great part of it. We thoroughly approve of his refusal to make that concession to the laziness of the learner which is so commonly made in similar works, and heartily commend the omission of the customary vocabulary so conspicuous by its absence in Professor Ramsay's work.

The Editor of the *Journal of Education* has put forth in a very-prettily-got-up little volume, published by Mr. William Rice, and conferring great credit on the good taste of the publishers, a selection of the best of the *Epitaphs on C. G. Gordon* which were called forth by the prize offered in that journal. They almost all attain a higher level of excellence than is usually reached in such competitions, but certainly the best of them is that which was some weeks since quoted in our columns, and bears the well-known initials E. D. A. M.

M. Fasnacht, who is the editor of Messrs. Macmillan's series of *Foreign Classics*, has compiled for the same firm a *Progressive German Reader*, which is likely to be found very useful. In it he has endeavoured, and—as far as we can judge by mere inspection without practical application of his book—has endeavoured successfully, to steer a middle course between the two contrary extremes now so much in vogue, of teaching the grammar before the language and of teaching the language before the grammar. It has been recognised that the study of German is one in which the student advances up to a certain point with unusual facility, and beyond that point with extreme difficulty. M. Fasnacht may not unreasonably be expected to bridge over the intermediate stages. Certainly, those who have either as teachers or pupils to deal with the study of the German language will find a useful helpmate in the *Progressive German Reader*, which is well furnished both with notes and vocabulary. The volume now before us is described as "First Year;" we suppose that its successor will carry on to a yet higher stage the useful reading lessons which it contains.

Mr. Wheatley has reprinted under the title of *The Adelphi and its Site* (Eliot Stock) a most interesting lecture delivered by him last year before the London and Middlesex Archæological Society, on a subject with which the ordinary Londoner has nothing but very commonplace associations; though if we trace it back, as has been done by that accomplished antiquarian, beyond the days of the brothers Adam from whom it derives its present name, there is a stirring history of more than five centuries to be dealt with. The main incidents of that history are graphically sketched by the lecturer, and the publisher has added some curious topographical illustrations from old prints which increase the value of his lecture.

The little volume of *Simple Readings on the Minor Prophets* (J. Masters and Co.), by Miss Hyett—we assume, though without any positive foundation for our assumption, a feminine origin for it—to which Canon Walters has contributed a commendatory preface, is a useful contribution to the intelligent study of the Old Testament. The current error, which prevails so widely, even among those who ought to know better, that the Greater and the Lesser Prophets lived in a regular succession after the return from Babylon, can only be dissipated by a better understanding of the historical as well as the prophetical significance of their writings. That understanding will undoubtedly be promoted by such a volume as that now before us, which is based on a collection of notes of lessons for a Young Men's Bible-class in a small country town. But it well deserves a wider circulation; and will, in the language of the editor, which we have no hesitation in adopting and emphasising, be found useful as a handbook for classes in schools, and a valuable addition to the shelves of parochial libraries.

Reuben would be more appropriate than *Benjamin* as the name of the hero of the pleasantly-written novelette "by R. and A." recently published by Messrs. Griffith and Farran; for he is certainly unstable as water, and the fair Mabel has a happy escape from him when he commits suicide at Monte Carlo and leaves her free to marry Ferrars Briant. The story of poor Benjamin's infatuation for Mrs. Wentworth, which has led him to throw over his earlier and worthier love, is cleverly told; and the book, as a whole, though not very exciting, is, as we have said, pleasantly written, and contains some good character sketches.

Dean Plumptre's *Christ and Christendom* (Griffith, Farran, and Co.) appeared twenty years ago, and was welcomed by the Broad Church school, but left no very solid nor lasting impression. The Dean is a prolific writer—leaning rather to the "School of Thought" of Cassell's dogmatic-less publications, but not a theologian. Most of his notions are borrowed second-hand from other "Broad" Churchmen; while his remarks on Miracles and the Reunion of Christians are anything but definite and satisfactory. To those who have a taste for ecclesiastical milk-and-water—and for the mixture in which water predominates—we remark that another edition of his sermons has appeared and may be procured.

We are unable to commend Mr. Lee-Hamilton's book *Apollo and Marsyas* (E. Stock). There is much that is powerful in parts of it, and the energy, always considerable, is occasionally well pumped up. There are likewise several gems of thought, forcibly-drawn pictures, and picturesque passages here and there to be found; but, on the whole, we are obliged to pronounce against it. "Sister Mary of the Plague" is not pleasant. Some of the sonnets, which are artfully enough constructed and clever, are readable; but the book leaves a disagreeable taste in the mouth, and is not so flavoured as poetry ought to be.

The Messrs. Parker and Co. have published a new book entitled *The Church's Holy Year*, containing special poems on sacred subjects for every Sunday and great festivals. They are from the pen of the Rev. A. C. Ritchings, vicar of Boxmoor, and are intended to "make members of "our Church familiar with her teaching." We need not stay to point out that the volume distinctly challenges comparison with *The Christian Year* of Keble. That book, however, was unique and original, and very highly polished. This, though possessing certain merits, is rather to be commended for conception than work: pleasant and readable though many of the verses be, others are very devout and thoughtful, and all are pious. "On" and "down," however, on p. 87, do not rhyme; nor do "word" and "Lord," p. 109; nor do "art" and "heart," p. 143; nor do "scorn" and "mourn," p. 156; nor do "share" and "hear," p. 160. It must also be pointed out that several of the verses contain only mere rhyming commonplace, often only the platitudes of undogmatic Christianity put into sentimental jingle. A few are certainly of a higher and better type; others, again, sadly want strength, vigour, and melody. On the other hand, where the intention has been obviously so excellent, the piety so sincere, and the pains taken so considerable, we hesitate to write at all harshly or to criticise unkindly. That the author is an adept at religious verse-making is very obvious, but his productions are seldom impressive and often dull. The result never captivates the imagination, and most infrequently touches the heart. It also lacks fire and force, being too often tame and insipid. The subjects of most of the poems have been already taken by others, and there is nothing fresh nor striking in their new treatment by Mr. Ritchings. Yet we do not refuse to them what their author asks—"a friendly greeting."

Correspondence.

RECENT LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—I note, with regret and disappointment, that Mr. Edward Clarke, Q.C., has taken his seat, not *behind* Ministers, but *below* the gangway, as an "independent member;" and report says that he is greatly offended at not having been made one of the law officers of the Crown, and, being over-modest, feels himself slighted.

Permit me to remark, however, that Mr. Webster and Mr. Gorst owned claims that could not for a moment be put aside. The very high abilities and services of the former had been long recognised by Lord Cairns and Sir Fitzroy Kelly, while those of the latter (when acting as confidential adviser of the Fourth party and stirring up the leaders to action) could not have been overlooked. No one ever served the party better. So, too, with Mr. Marriott when he deserted the Liberal crew.

Moreover, Mr. Staveley Hill, Mr. Wilbraham Grantham, and several others who might be mentioned, bore the burden and heat of the day long before Mr. E. Clarke had been heard of, and certainly possess prior and weightier claims.

Finally, Mr. Clarke's votes in favour of marriage with a deceased wife's sister have so damaged him with the Church party (as it is called) that his appointment at the recent crisis would have been disastrous to that party with thousands. When every vote is wanted for the Tories at Plymouth he foolishly alienates good Churchmen, who have noted his vagaries, by supporting what they sincerely believe to be "incest." He may find out his error at the next election. Possibly he will.

Yours &c.,
BLUNDERBORE.

P.S.—A Plymouth correspondent thus writes to me:—"We are determined not to have a pro-deceased-wife's-sister-Conservative at any cost here at Plymouth. The Tories being in office gives them a chance of carrying their members; but E. Clarke will wreck the cause here. If you doubt my judgment, consult Mr. John Shelley, sometime Mayor here."

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on July 4, 11, 18, and 25.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the Acrostic Editor of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 4.

(Fourth Month, Tenth Year.)

1. S allus T
2. W aterlo O
3. I O U
4. S oothsaye R
5. S tylite S

Answers have been received from Felix, Waddles, Kiku, Kildale, L.E.L., Vertumnus, S.O.F., Godiva, Noryb, Mike, Bios, Magnet, Tim, Chelmsford, Viz, Pansy, Evelina, Tilly Slowboy, Sociable, Land o' Nod, Query, Hadji, Peewit, M.A.E.B., Beam, Etak, Paddy, Cymro, Roslyn, Katydid, Two Countesses, Senga, Culverin, Conjecture, Iris, G.C.H., Conjector, Sleepy, and Zyx.

March Tide.—Persevere and Todcat have both sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

May Tide.—Hampton Courtier, Ketha, Mac, and Pegasus have sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

MONTHLY LIST FOR JUNE.

1. P.M.L., Whaup, The Owl, Zulus, Cave Lupum, Emmi, Pen, Spero, Viz, and S.M.F.
2. Felix, Senga, Noryb, Conjector, Quandary, Pansy, Sleepy, Conjecture, and Culverin.
3. M.A.E.B., Iris, Vertumnus, G.C.H., Mike, Katydid, Etak, Roslyn, Cymro, Paddy, Kildale, Zyx, Evelina, Sociable, Peewit, Hadji, Magnet, Chelmsford, South Western, Two Countesses, and Query.
4. Godiva, L.E.L., Tim, Tilly Slowboy, S.O.F., Kiku, and Bios.

Thus Bios, Godiva, Kiku, L.E.L., S.O.F., Tilly Slowboy, and Tim have tied for the June Prize, and remain competing.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 2.

(Fifth Month, Tenth Year.)

Prem.

All round the coast they may be seen;
Just one word will describe what I mean.

1.
Four quarters it has, like the changing moon:
It flies too quick, it ends too soon.

2.
By the apples tempted was won at last
A girl who till then had been quite too fast.

3.
Thus to style a man 'tis very clear
An insult to dogs may well appear.

4.
Nectar she gave to gods and youth to man,
At least, so the olden legend ran.

5.
On English lawns it flourishes, what time
The summer lives through its golden prime.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

Mr. Carl Rosa has partly reorganised his company, which will begin its tour early in August. Among the more familiar names will be missed those of Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Ben Davies, Mr. Snazelle, and Miss Clara Perry. On the other hand, Mdme. Marie Roze will sing always twice weekly, and Mr. Maas will assist at special representations. Mdme. Gaylord, Mr. Packard, and the American contralto, Miss Dickeson, will be added to the company, which will also include Mdme. Burns, Mr. M'Guckin, and Mr. Crotty.

In *The Inventories*, produced at the Strand on Wednesday, the pleasant pen of Mr. Savile Clarke has found both theme and title for a *pièce de circonstance* which brings the entertainment to a laughable conclusion. The plot is chiefly concerned with the adventures of an elderly but not over-wise husband, who visits the exhibition, and carries on a reckless flirtation with every woman who gives ear to his nonsensical protestations. He at last comes face to face with his wife, who, having sallied forth in quest of him, has also passed through a strange chapter of accidents. Had occasion demanded, the author, writing at his best, might easily have furnished a dialogue more vigorously and continuously witty; but there was no necessity. The piece is well played by Mr. Frank Wyatt, Mr. H. R. Teesdale, Miss G. Arnold, and Miss M. Hudspeth in the principal parts. Mr. Wyatt's droll dancing and his equally droll singing of a song for which Mr. Slaughter has composed the music were rapturously received.

One of the most ancient of the few remaining old houses in Lambeth will shortly go the way of its more famous neighbour and contemporary—the "Swan." It is close to the waterside, being No. 157 in Lambeth-road, formerly Church-street, and over the wide entrance into Swan (or Palace) Yard. The large room, which occupies nearly all the first floor, has served for a conventicle, and is said to have been used by Bunyan on the occasion of his evangelistic visit to this quarter from Bedford. Adjoining No. 157 is the cleared site of the "Swan," pulled down some three years since, reputedly one of the earliest public-houses established in London.—*Builder*.

A singular discovery has just been made in Old-square, Lincoln's Inn. Between the gateway and the late Sir G. G. Scott's new chambers northwards stand Nos. 2, 3, and 4, Old-square, or, as it is styled in the existing tablet, Old-buildings. These chambers date from more than 250 years since. They are solidly built, and contain a great amount of large-sized oaken timber. Having enjoyed immunity from fire, they preserve their pristine condition, but must now fall in pursuance of an extensive scheme for rehabilitating the inn. Behind the later deal panelling of a room on the first floor of No. 3, to the left hand of one ascending the newel stairs in the turret, is exposed a contemporary fresco, painted on the plaster between the uprights and transoms. Extending from floor to ceiling, it covers, over all, some 70 square feet. Limited to their respective divisions, the subjects include figures, monsters, heads, amorini, birds, fruit, flowers, scrolls, and the like—all well executed, though in somewhat crude colouring. The Cupid discharging his bow, the Pomona (or Ceres), the swinging boy, and the husbandmen tilling the soil, are very good. The style of the spade used by the last-named is in itself enough to mark the age of a curious mural decoration, for whose rescue some effort should be made. To the right is a capital composition of two dolphins depicted in conventional guise, supporting a vase or fountain, whereon are two parrots, and above them a heart in flames. We (the *Builder*) understand that the benchers are minded for the present to withhold their destroying hands from so much of the square, including the historic Thurloe chambers at No. 24, as lies south of the gate, and from the gatehouse itself. That venerable portal dates from the year 1518, and is one of the very few of its kind which survive in London. Here, in the top floor of No. 1 staircase, Lord Mansfield, when Mr. William Murray, had chambers; Sir Matthew Hale occupied the set immediately over the archway, looking into what was then known as the Gatehouse Court.

The finally-arranged programme for the forthcoming Hereford Musical Festival has just been issued. The music which will be performed in the Cathedral is as follows:—Tuesday morning, Sept. 8, *Elijah* (Mendelssohn); Wednesday morning, Sept. 9, *The Redemption* (Gounod), evening, *The Last Judgment* (Spohr), *A Stronghold Sure* (Bach); Thursday morning, Sept. 10, *Stabat Mater* (Dvorák), *Hymn of Praise* (Mendelssohn); Friday morning, Sept. 11, *The Messiah* (Handel). There will be full choral service in the Cathedral each morning. The sermon in aid of the Charity will be preached on Thursday, Sept. 8, by the Rev. Prebendary Poole. Miscellaneous concerts will take place in the Shire Hall on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and the usual chamber concert on the Friday evening. The principal vocalists engaged are Mdme. Albani, Miss Hilda Coward, and Miss Anna Williams, Mdme. Patey, and Mdme. Enriquez; Mr. Edward Lloyd and Mr. Harper Kearton, Mr. Brereton, and Mr. Santley. Mr. Carrodus will be in his old position as leader of the band and solo violin; Dr. Langdon Colborne will conduct; Mr. Done will preside at the organ, and Mr. C. L. Williams at the pianoforte and organ (second evening).

It is stated in the *American Eagle* that Captain Paterson, the inventor of a new system of aerial navigation, intends exhibiting the same in practical operation at the forthcoming American Exhibition in London. The idea does by no means lack boldness. "We claim," says the Captain, "that our train principle of air navigation insures great carrying capacity, much motive power, great velocity, complete navigability, and the greatest safety to life and property. We also claim that as the end ships are tapered like a cigar, the train will easily penetrate the air, and the opening made by the front air-ship will permit all the other vessels in the train to follow, without causing any resistance to the air; and we claim to be the true inventors of the continued long tubular gas vessel or balloon, and also of the continued long air-ship car, which furnishes great carrying capacity, and completely overcomes the difficulty of too much resistance against the air; and to these advantages it is due that we were successful in completely solving the problem of air navigation." The framing of the gas vessels is so arranged as to strengthen the structure; and as the car suspension gear is connected to the lateral framing, no suspension netting or balloon covering is needed, thus doing away with the dangerous chafing and rubbing on the top and side surfaces of the balloons. The weight saved by this improved construction is applied to strengthening the outer surface of the real gas vessel itself, and thereby enables it to easily resist the pressure of the air caused when the train of air-ships travels with great speed. One of the important features of this invention is the coupling (or uniting) of separate gas vessels end to end, to form a train of gas vessels, thereby increasing the length and lifting capacity to any desired extent, without adding to the transverse sectional surface presented to the air. Wire cables are used in the car suspension gear, which are not only fire-proof, but much lighter than any heretofore employed. The cables pass through the cars—the openings being made water-tight—between the car frames and sides, so as to show a smooth outside surface. The cars for the carriage of passengers and merchandise are shaped so that a cross-section is a true circle; this form presents less resistance to the air, and can be given a maximum strength with the minimum weight of material. By means of the central row of rudders, the train may be turned in a very small circle by setting the front and rear rudders properly. The central rudders serve as centre-boards, and when all the rudders are set at the same angle to the lateral centre-line, the train of ships may be moved to the right or left without altering the real course; or, in order words, the train may head the storm while moving to either side. The various parts of the train are so constructed and arranged that either end may be used as head, the speed being the same in both directions. To allow the train to ascend and descend at pleasure, one or more rows of adjustible screw-propellers are provided.

A discovery of ancient implements of warfare, to which great interest is being attached on account of their great antiquity, has been made at Wingham, Kent. The relics were found by some workmen who were excavating a gravel pit. There are numerous spear-heads, and near them three perfect skeletons.

The case of the Carnac heirlooms will form (says the *Graphic*) a decided precedent in that domain of law which relates to the attractive subject of titles and dignities. It involved the question, which was, on the face of it, simple enough, but which had not apparently been definitely decided, whether a mere baronetcy, having no lands attached to it, was a species of "real" property, or, to use the orthodox phrase an "incorporeal hereditament," descending according to the laws of entail in the same way as lands entailed descend to the heir of each occupant. If this were the correct view of the case, then the provisions of the Settled Land Act would apply, and the tenant in tail in possession would be enabled, under certain conditions, to sell the heirlooms. But if not, the result would be that a massive service of plate, belonging to an impecunious gentleman who had not the means to make the plate of any use to him, would be kept lying idle at a bank or warehouse, and not only lying idle, but involving a certain expenditure for its custody and insurance, waiting for the time when some future Carnac should have come into a fortune, and been able to set up a grand establishment. If the present baronet had been the tenant in possession of any land the difficulty could hardly have arisen; but one of the peculiarities of the case was that not an acre of land was settled in the same way as the silver. Mr. Justice Chitty, however, refused to take a narrow view of the case, and in spite of the opposition of the trustees, who attempted to force Sir James Carnac to retain the plate, has ordered it to be sold and the proceeds invested, so that they may be of some benefit to him and his family.

SIR SAVILE LUMLEY'S DIGGINGS.

A correspondent of the *St. James's Gazette* writes from Rome, June 20:—The Giardino del Lago belongs to Prince Orsini; and it is with his consent

that Sir Savile Lumley has been carrying on excavations there. It consists of an irregular parallelogram of grass-land with olive plantations, about 250 yards long, circumscribed toward the S.W., the S.E., and part of the N.E. sides by colossal walls. The slope of the hill shows that these walls were built as well for support to the upper soil and for the creation of a level terrace, as for a delimitation to the sacred enclosure around the temple; but until the accumulated masses of rank vegetation which hid them from view were cleared away, no evidence of their existence was sufficiently manifest to assist the researches of archæologists with respect to the real site of the temple of Diana Nemorensis. No mention of this ample enclosure is made either by the older topographical writers, or by Fea, Nibby, or Canina; although the two first were not far wrong in their conjectures as to the real locality of the Temple; while the third author placed it far above, on the jutting promontory of rock on which now stands the church at the entry of Nemi.

It is within the enclosure, and towards the south angle, that Sir Savile Lumley commenced his diggings, which at no great depth yielded an unexpected return of terra-cotta figures and images of more or less archaic character, and of the usual type of votive offerings customary among the ancients. So great a quantity of these *ex voto* figures of various sizes were soon found that three mule-loads of them were taken away and deposited in a storehouse of Prince Orsini's at Genzano. The discovery of such an abundance of terra-cotta emblems formed strong presumptive evidence of the vicinity of an ancient temple; and the fact of their having been found interred at no great depth led to the conjecture that the old pit or trench containing them was still full to the brim. In fact, the excavations were carried down to a depth of 20ft. at this point without any diminution in the supply of pottery. Some of the images represent entire figures, male and female, others merely busts or limbs; while another class is devoted to emblems offered by young married people desirous of invoking the aid of Diana under the name and attributes of Lucina.

All the available space in the Temple of Diana seems to have been repeatedly filled with *ex voto* offerings, and consequently the priests were obliged periodically to clear out the whole mass of them and bury them in trenches in the consecrated enclosure. Objects in silver and gold, with gems, rich stuffs, statues, and paintings, were offered only in the later days of the Republic; and were doubtless stored up more carefully: since Octavius Cæsar found it worth while, during the civil war, to *borrow* such treasures from many temples, where the historian Appian, in narrating this fact, says there were still in his time "abundant treasures of sacred riches."

The silver and gold have melted away; but the terra-cottas, from their intrinsic worthlessness, have remained to delight archæologists and historians. In speculating upon the age of these *ex voto* offerings, it must be considered that their archaic type was probably transmitted with a kind of superstitious veneration from the earliest ages—perhaps even from the fabulous period when Orestes brought the image of Diana from Tauris and established her first temple in Italy in the neighbourhood of Ariccia.

An exploration of the soil to the east of the pottery depôt has revealed some marble monuments. Among these are fragments of a slab bearing an inscription, in very fine letters, to the Emperor Vespasian from the Senate and people of Ariccia. Other fragments of inscriptions, portions of statues, and columns encouraged Sir Savile Lumley to continue his researches; varying the locality, however, in order to discover, if possible, the site of the celebrated Temple itself.

Attracted by the appearance of a ruined cottage overgrown with ivy and partly concealing a kind of artificial mound standing near the centre of the quadrangular enclosure already mentioned, he directed his excavators to clear out the surrounding space. At the depth of five feet some regular courses of masonry were exposed, consisting of massive blocks of volcanic stone accurately joined, without cement, in alternate rows of headers and stretchers. Encouraged by this success, the workmen continued to dig; and after a few days reached a depth of twelve feet; uncovering the four sides of an oblong basement, formed by walls eighty feet long by fifty, and preserving its stylobate at intervals along the foot of the edifice, fragments of it having disappeared at the sides.

During my visit I recognised that the Temple—for it is impossible to designate this platform otherwise—faced the south-west, like most of the ancient temples in Latium, and especially those still existing in ruins of Juno at Gabii and Diana Aricina; the latter of which was discovered by Nibby in 1817, party concealed by farm-buildings, near Ariccia. Both of these temples were built in regular courses of stone, without cement, and were similar in style, although much inferior in size, to the one just discovered; and as their date of construction is fixed by Nibby at the fifth century of Rome, the same period may be attributed, until some more positive evidence is obtained, to the Temple of Diana Nemorensis now revealed. The stylobate on the south-west is perfect at the angles for a distance of 14ft. on each side, leaving a central space of 21ft. 8in. for the entrance; but until the earth and rubbish still encumbering the inside of the basement are cleared out the plan of the edifice cannot be ascertained.

In the course of these excavations a number of fragmentary inscriptions, vases, lamps, coins, and terra-cotta figures have already been found, referring to different epochs; but none of such a decidedly archaic type as those of two female figures—one wearing a kind of hat and the other headless, but both dressed with the pallium, and finishing in wings below the waist, unless the lower parts of the figure are wanting. What is extremely curious is that both figures are represented as assailed by two lions rampant, like blazonic supporters, whose paws they grasp on each side. These figures are in alto-rilievo, on slabs of terra-cotta, and perhaps formed part of a frieze running round some extremely ancient shrine; but whether they represent Cybele or the Diana Venatrix herself is a subject for more complete study.

On the N.W. side of the quadrangle I saw five bases of partly fluted columns of the Doric order, but could not ascertain whether they belonged to the portico of the Temple or the *peribolus*, especially as a series of square pilasters outside the columns has just been discovered. In the same direction has been uncovered an ancient Roman road paved with polygonal blocks; doubtless that described by Strabo as being used by pilgrims ascending from Ariccia to the Temple of Diana. Some private residences adjoining this road were probably inhabited by the priestesses and inservients of the Temple. Other houses are found within the sacred enclosure.

STICKING PINS.

Breton girls who want to get married go to Sené, near Vannes, and stick pins in the foot of the wooden statue of a Spanish saint locally called St. Uferier, who marries his devotees within the year. The pin must be well pushed, for if it falls out the wedding will fall through; and it must be a strong straight pin, for if it bends the future husband may be a hunchback or a cripple. This is on the Atlantic coast. On the Channel, at Ploumanac'h, on a rock accessible at low tide, there is a little shrine supported by four Roman columns, and dedicated to St. Quirec, who landed there from England in the sixth century. His wooden image is stuck full of pins. So is a statue of St. Lawrence, near Quinton; whether because of a connection between the gridiron and the hearth, or an analogy or a contrast between his particular form of martyrdom and the "fifteen joys of wedlock," is not now remembered. Here the pin must stick at the first push, for each failure postpones the marriage for a year. The same practice has been traced further inland, at Laval, in the ancient province of Maine, where the bare legs and arms of a colossal wooden statue of St. Christopher are covered with pinholes and pins; and both young men and maidens join in the rite. There is an old tale told of an idiot who broke the statue of St. Mirli on the eve of his *fête*. In order to conceal his crime, his mother made him take the saint's place. Now upon the occasion of his feast there was a great resort of pious pilgrims who stuck pins in St. Mirli's knee for all sorts of wants. The first few pins of the day happened to be those of children, and did not much hurt the saint's *locum-tenens;* a young girl followed and drew blood; a stout old countrywoman then drove a corking-pin so far into the poor idiot's leg that he jumped howling over the devout and prostrate bodies, and there and then made a miracle; for St. Mirli is believed to have flown up to heaven.

Now pins can be made to enter wood; but the old worm-eaten decaying statues of the past are often replaced by stone figures, which are rebellious to pins. In that case, the pins are still brought by the petitioners, but they are merely placed round the base of the effigy. Such is the case with the statues of St. Simon and "le bon St. Eloi" at Menneval in Normandy and at many other places; in fact, it may be regarded as pretty general at scattered out-of-the-way villages all over France. For instance, at Fontaine-la-Guyon, in the department of Eure-et-Loir, there is an iron cross in the cemetery; and each visitor, having said her prayer, lays a pin on one of the arms of the cross. Here, too, the iron had replaced wood. At Trédaniel, in Brittany, there was an old stone cross of which an arm had been replaced, leaving an open slit in which the girls used to deposit their pins. The cross succumbed to time; and now they put the pins in the hole where it stood. At holy wells of pilgrimage, too, quantities of pins and thorns are thrown into the water.

There is manifestly no difference, except in size and handiness, between a pin and a nail: indeed, when pins had not yet become plentiful, we should have expected to find nails at work; and this is just what we do find. In the ancient county of Montbéliard, in the extreme east of France, the very old men still remember the local custom of "forging marriages" in the Huguenot villages there. At the moment of the celebration of the wedding in the temple it was clenched by driving a nail into the pulpit or tribune; or, in some of the villages, by stamping a nail into the floor with the heel. Clearly, neither Luther nor Calvin is answerable for this. The Protestants received it from their Catholic forefathers, who in turn, as we shall perhaps see, drew it from their heathen progenitors. Trees were worshipped long before images and statues were ever thought of, and close observers have made us familiar with many traces of this remote cult even in recent times. Less than fifty years ago there was an oak called Lapalud, not far from Angers, which the townspeople held in great reverence. It was fabled to be as old as the town, and was closely studded with nails up to the height of perhaps 10ft. From time immemorial every carpenter, joiner, and mason who passed the tree knocked a nail into it. There was, too, the old stump of a tree, the Stock im Eisen, at the corner of the square near the Cathedral at Vienna. This was about 7ft. high, and from top to bottom was completely hidden by a cuirass formed by the heads of the nails driven home by the members of guilds and societies who tramped through the city. It was a Wahrzeichen with them—a token of their actual visit to the town; and they had a tradition that the stump was the sole remnant of an immense forest that once stood there. These may be empty survivals of tree-worship, as are the practices reported by Ouseley of the modern Persians, who cover their dirakht-i-fazel, their excellent trees, with nails, ex-votos, amulets, and rags.

But we may go somewhat further back. Among the pagan Romans, planting a nail was a *piaculum*, a means of expiation, a religious observance. It was a remedy or a preservative against sickness and enchantment. On a certain annual feast, now lost to us and then already lost to them, the chief magistrate (see Preller's *Römische Mythologie*) drove a nail into the wall of the sanctuary, *cella Jovis*, of the Temple of Jupiter on the Capitol. Later on, Livy, giving a rationalistic explanation of this ceremony, which took place on the Ides (the 13th) of September, said it was a custom of Etruscan origin, by which the number of years were marked in prehistoric times. But this theory of Livy's will not hold water; for it was not solely an annual act, and a dictator was named for the purpose of performing it, *clavi figendi causa*, in grave junctures or at times of public calamity. In B.C. 492 the ceremony was gone through to put an end to the disturbances in the republic. In B.C. 362 it was revived, after long disuse, because of a year-long plague. In B.C. 330 numerous cases of poisoning threw Rome into consternation, and a nail was again driven. These instances show to what a remote antiquity the rite must be referred; for it is clear that even among the Romans of more than two thousand years ago it had lost all its primitive associations, and was then a mere survival, and in all probability a survival of fetishism as it is now to be observed in Western Africa. M. Charles de Rouvre, writing recently in the *Proceedings of the French Geographical Society*, says that on the Congo the more important big fetishes, the *n'doké*, are found apart in special huts kept by priests called *ganga zambi*, who alone can draw responses from them. Worship is carried on by offering to the fetish—that is, to the priest—one or more pieces of cloth, and some rum, the indispensable accompaniment of every ceremony as well as of every transaction of trade. The ganga then formulates the prayer of the petitioner, who is meanwhile permitted to drive a nail, big or small, according to his offering, into the body itself of the wooden image or fetish. Brittany and the Congo would not seem to have got as yet very far apart, although the Christian saint has replaced the savage's fetish.—*St. James's Gazette.*

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. T. Bennett, to Perpetual Curacy of Newton Hall, Northumberland. Patrons, the Trustees of the late Colonel Joicey.

Rev. A. O. Cherrington, Vicar of St. Michael's Church, Tividale, near Rowley, to Vicarage of Ogley Hay, near Lichfield. Patron, the Bishop of Lichfield.

Ven. J. L. Darby, to be Canon of Chester Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. F. J. Dickson, Rector of Bispham, to Rectory of St. Wilfrid's, Ribchester. Patron, the Bishop of Manchester.

Rev. T. E. Espin, Rector of Wallasey and Chancellor of the Dioceses of Chester and Liverpool, to Rectory of Wolsingham, Darlington. Patron, the Bishop of Chester.

Rev. F. W. Glyn, to Vicarage of Lanchester. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. A. E. P. Gray, Vicar of St. George's Church, Poyntonwith-Worth, to Rectory of Wallasey.

Rev. A. S. Hawthorne, Senior Curate of Eton, Bucks, to Rectory of Bestwood Park. Patron, the Duke of St. Albans.

Rev. D. Howell, Vicar of Wrexham, to be Canon Residentiary of Meladyn or Meliden in St. Asaph Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. G. Jepson, to Rectory of Elton. Patrons, Mrs. Lonsdale and others, for this turn.

Rev. W. F. A. Lambert, to be Clerk-in-Orders, St. James's Church, Piccadilly.

Rev. V. J. Leatherdale, Curate of Cleeve, to Vicarage of Temple Guiting. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford.

Rev. A. S. Littlewood, Rector of Turnworth, to Rectory of Stickland, Dorset. Patron, Colonel Hambro.

Rev. T. C. Mulholland, to Vicarage of St. James's, West Hartlepool. Patron, the Bishop of Durham.

Rev. W. K. Ormsby, Domestic Chaplain to Colonel Clements, D.L., to be Chaplain to the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin.

Rev. W. H. Palmer, to Perpetual Curacy of St. James's, Blackburn.

Rev. N. Poynts, Rector of Stone, to be Rural Dean of Trentham. Patron, the Bishop of Lichfield.

Rev. P. R. Robin, to be Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF DURHAM.—Revs. Hugh Charles Baldwin, B.A., to Muggleswick; John Warren Dunford, to Etherley; Peter Hughes, to St. James's, Burnopfield; John Kirk, to Stella; Alfred Robert Tucker, B.A., to St. Nicholas', Durham; William Mackman Wykes, B.A., to St. Paul's, Winlaton.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF CHESTER.—Revs. William Skinner Farmer, to Holy Epiphany, Lache; Charles Vincent Gorton, M.A., to Wallasey; William George Rainsford, M.A., to Christ Church, Monks Coppenhall; Thomas Newton Rigby, M.A., to Christ Church, Tintwistle.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF NEWCASTLE.—Revs. Thomas Appleton, to Amble; Francis Morgan Dean, M.A., to Ford; George Prince Hall, M.A., to Ninebanks; Romeo Edwin Tuells, to St. Anthony's near Newcastle.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF RIPON.—Revs. Edward Brierley, B.A., to Staniland, Halifax; Thomas Duckett, B.A., to Shipley; William Bramley Ferry, B.A., to Dewsbury Moor; Alexander Pollock Hamilton, B.A., to All Saints', Bradford; Richard Hamilton Horsfall, B.A., to Dacre; Arthur Kelley, B.A., to Wensley; Robert Marley, to St. Paul's, Manningham; Stephen Nugent Perry, B.A., to St. Mary's, Hunslet, Leeds; James Rigby, to Linthwaite Thomas Henry Naylor, B.A. to Ilkley Parish Church; Daniel Thomas, to St. Laurence's, Pudsey; Herbert Williams, B.A., to St. James's, Bradford.

OBITUARY.

June 27, at The Vicarage, Halling, near Rochester, the Rev. Joshua Nalson, M.A., thirty-three years Vicar of the parish, aged 81.

June 27, at Halford Vicarage, the Rev. William Eedson Lumb, M.A., for forty-two years Vicar of Sibdon-with-Halford, aged 78.

June 30, at St. Peter's, Aldwinckle, the Rev. Sir Henry John Gunning, Bart., aged 87.

July 2, the Rev. Percy Wemyss Phillips Nott, Vicar of Kew-cum-Petersham, aged 46.

July 2, at Burton Bradstock Rectory, the Rev. William Christopher Templar, M.A., Rector of Burton Bradstock-cum-Shipton Gorge, and Vicar of Walditch, aged 62.

July 3, at 23, Rodney-street, N., the Rev. Thomas Astley Cock, M.A., formerly Mathematical Lecturer at King's College, London, aged 73.

July 6, at The Close, Salisbury, the Right Rev. George Moberly, D.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Salisbury, aged 82.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The sale of the Episcopal Palace of Riseholme has been satisfactorily concluded, and steps will now be immediately taken for the enlargement of the existing house at the old palace and the erection of new apartments, to render it a suitable residence for the present and future Bishops of Lincoln. The architect of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, Mr. Ewan Christian, visited Lincoln on Saturday to inspect the site. It is hoped that it will be found practicable to adapt a portion of the ruined palace, erected by St. Hugh at the close of the twelfth century, for the purposes of a domestic chapel. It will be remembered that the gateway tower, built by Bishop Alnwick in the fifteenth century, was restored by the munificence of Bishop Wordsworth, and provides lecture-rooms for the theological students of the *Scholæ Cancellarii.*—*Guardian.*

By the death of the Bishop of Salisbury the Bishop of Truro succeeds to a seat in the House of Lords.

We (*Daily News*) lately stated that counsel's opinion had been obtained to the effect that clergymen of the Church of England had a legal right to officiate in Nonconformist pulpits in their own parishes. This opinion was given by Mr. A. Charles, Q.C., and Mr. Courtney Kenny. A meeting of clergymen and others will be held shortly to consider what further action should be taken in the matter.

Canon Liddon has been ordered by his medical adviser to leave England at once, in order to recruit his health. He will not, therefore, be able to keep his turn during the month of August as Sunday afternoon reader at St. Paul's Cathedral. The Canon's illness is not of a serious character, but only one requiring absolute rest.

The Hon. and Rev. W. H. Fremantle, since his appointment as one of the canons residentiary at Canterbury, is stated (says the *Daily News*) to have actively identified himself with the Liberal cause in the city, and to have thereby created a feeling of dissatisfaction amongst a section of the citizens. Canon Fremantle was last week requested to become chairman of the Liberal party in Canterbury, and on Sunday it was announced that he had consented to accept the post. He is now preaching a series of sermons on "The Duty of Christians in Regard to War," and in these discourses he has eulogised the pacific policy of the late Government in the dispute with Russia.

At Guildford on Saturday, Mrs. Harold Browne laid the foundation-stone of a parish hall and working men's club. In a subsequent address the Bishop remarked on the separation of the classes, employers and employed, as being one of the worst features of the present day. He hailed working men's clubs as substitutes for the home, and, if properly managed, rivals to the publichouses. He was glad to hear that the subject of politics would be excluded from the discussions. Personally, he troubled himself very little about politics, and when he saw ministers of God troubling themselves with them he thought they had forgotten their great calling.

The Brabazon Home of Comfort, at Reigate, was opened on Saturday. This home is founded through the liberality of Lady Brabazon for the benefit of sick members of the Girls' Friendly Society, and others, who, not being eligible for any hospital, would linger out their days in a workhouse infirmary. There was a service in the parish church, and after a few prayers in the home itself, the home was declared open by Miss Yonge.

The Bishop of Manchester has conferred the Archdeaconry of Blackburn upon the Rev. Robert Atherton Rawstone, M.A., vicar of St. Leonard's, Balderston, and a Proctor in Convocation.

The *Manchester Guardian* states that Dean Oakley has been blackballed at the Clerical Society of the diocese. One of the Dean's nominators was the Rev. T. H. Guest, rector of St. Mark's, Hulme, the treasurer of the society. We are informed that the very rev. gentleman has been elected a member of the Manchester Clergy Society, which is the largest association of the kind out of London, and includes members of all schools of thought. The Clerical Society consists chiefly of members connected with, or sympathising with, the Church Association.

The *Rock* hears that it is proposed to bring forward Canon Freeling, vicar of St. Cross, Holywell, and Rural Dean of Oxford, for the proctorship of the diocese, vacant by the promotion of Canon Butler to the Deanery of Lincoln.

For the chaplaincy of St. Petersburg the Governor, Consuls, and Court of Assistants of Russia have nominated the Rev. Arthur Eugene Watson, now curate to the Rev. W. E. Torr, at Eastham, Cheshire.

The quarterly board of the Tithe Redemption Trust was held on Wednesday, July 8; the Rev. Harcourt Skrine, in the unavoidable absence of Lord John Manners, in the chair. The following resolution was adopted in reference to the late Mr. Malet:—

That the board of the Tithe Redemption Trust have heard with much sorrow of the death of the Rev. W. W. Malet, vicar of Ardeley, one of their brother members. Mr. Malet had been long actively associated with the Trust, and, indeed, was always considered as one of its founders. The Board therefore feel his loss to be no common one, and wish therefore to place on record not only testimony of their personal sorrow, but also a tribute of their appreciation of his great and valuable work for this Society.

It was announced that the Bishop of Exeter had accepted the office of Vice-President of the Trust.

The funeral of the Rev. Percy Wemyss Phillips Nott, vicar of Kew-cum-Petersham, took place on Tuesday morning, the body, which was conveyed to the vicarage on an open car covered with flowers, being received at Kew Church by Canon Hussey and and the Revs. S. Golding (curate in charge), W. T. Newbold, and R. Dudding, and the choir and churchwardens of the two parishes, who preceded it into the church, which was crowded with parishoners. The chief mourners were General Nott, the father of Mr. Nott, and Dr. Hamblin Nott. The Duchess of Cambridge was represented by General Greville, and the Duke of Cambridge and Duke of Teck were present. The body was afterwards taken through Richmond to the churchyard of Petersham, where it was placed in the grave by the side of Mrs. Nott, his mother, the service being said by the Archdeacon of Kingston-on-Thames.

The Princess Christian, accompanied by Lady Edward Cavendish and Colonel the Hon. E. Eliot, visited the parish of Stepney on Tuesday for the purpose of opening a three days' fancy *fête* and garden party held in the public garden of St. Philip's, Stepney, at the back of the London Hospital. Her Royal Highness, the news of whose arrival had caused a large crowd to gather about the entrance of the garden, was received by the Rev. Sidney Vatcher, rector of the parish of Stepney, and by the Hon. Mrs. Lowther, the Countess of Bandon, Lady Decies, Mrs. Tyssen-Amherst, Lady Louisa Feilding, and Lady Alice Havelock-Allan. The Rev. Mr. Vatcher having read a short address to the Princess stating the objects of the *fête*, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the maintenance of the garden, provision of nourishment to the sick, sending invalids into the country, and other good works connected with the parish, her Royal Highness declared the fair open. The fancy fair proper was held in a large marquee, and contained all the attractions customary to such entertainments. Stalls were held by the Misses Bentinck, Hon. Mrs. Erskine, Lady G. Baillie-Hamilton, Miss Mary Beresford-Hope, Mrs. Sidney Vatcher, and by some thirty other ladies. Afternoon and evening concerts were also given, a number of distinguished professionals and amateurs having lent their assistance. In addition to those in the large marquee, stalls and booths were arranged in the garden, which has been called by Mr. Walter Besant "the prettiest little garden in London." This garden, the origin of the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, has been the work of the rector, Mr. Vatcher, who has been working at the East-end of London for the last twelve years.

By permission of Mr. and Mrs. Benyon, a drawing-room meeting was held on Wednesday at 17, Grosvenor-square, for the purpose of promoting the association of ladies which has recently been formed for the diocese of London, Mrs. Temple being president, to assist the work of the Additional Curates

Society. Lady associates undertake to contribute annually two articles suitable for sale and a small subscription. The meeting was presided over by the Bishop of Oxford, who rejoiced to say that in his diocese there were no pressing claims for the agency of the society. The Bishop of St. Albans held up for example the ladies of his diocese, who collected for the society last year £1,400. The Bishop of Bedford urged the claims of the East-end of London, and instanced the great good that was being done by the clergy and gentlemen who came and lived and worked among the poor. Canon Gregory, in moving a vote of thanks to the clergy and to Mr. and Mrs. Benyon, said the need of more clergy for pastoral ministrations was more than ever apparent. The working classes cared little for pulpit utterances, which they regarded as a mere matter of business. By personal intercourse with the clergy they might be influenced. Mr. J. A. Shaw-Stewart seconded the motion, which was briefly acknowledged, and the Benediction by the chairman closed the proceedings.

In the course of a speech in Convocation on the Criminal Law Amendment Bill the Bishop of Peterborough observed :—"I believe there is a very important distinction to be drawn between laws for the suppression of vice and laws for the repression of crime, and I believe that we get into very dangerous regions when we endeavour to carry too far the principle that the State should aim at the suppression of vice. In my opinion that ought to be the work of the Church far more than that of the State."

It is stated that the Rev. T. W. Mossman, rector of East Torrington, Lincolnshire, and a "Bishop" of the Order of Corporate Reunion, has been received into the Roman Communion by Cardinal Manning.

A correspondent writes "to make known to those readers of the *English Churchman* intending to visit Eastbourne this season, that they will find Immanuel Church all that can be wished for. The minister is the highly-esteemed and loved Rev. T. Paddon, formerly vicar of High Wycombe. If we were to lose Canon Pitman, vicar of Eastbourne, and Mr. Paddon, this poor town would be in the hands of the enemies of light—viz., Ritualists." It may be as well to warn readers of the *English Churchman* that Immanuel Church belongs not to the Church of England, but to a Dissenting sect styling itself "the Free Church," to which Mr. Paddon has seceded.

Mr. N. C. S. Poyntz writes to a contemporary as to the alleged difficulty in keeping a jubilee service in the Church in commemoration of the Queen's Accession, owing to Trinity Sunday falling on the 20th of June in 1886 :—"May I be permitted to suggest that, from a Christian point of view, Coronation Day, 28th of June, is a more suitable occasion for such rejoicing and thanksgiving than is Accession Day? It was on Coronation Day that the Queen became to her Christian subjects the Lord's anointed, being anointed by the Archbishop with 'holy oil, as kings, priests, and prophets were anointed,' and thus became sacred in her person. It was on Coronation Day that the Queen received at the hands of the Archbishop, from off the altar, the sword of God's justice, to 'stop the growth of iniquity, protect the holy Church of God, help and defend widows and orphans, restore the things that are gone to decay, maintain the things that are restored, punish and reform what is amiss, and confirm what is in good order.' It was on Coronation Day that the Queen received at the hands of the Archbishop the sceptre with the cross, 'the rod of equity and mercy.' And it was after her coronation that she was recognised fully as Queen in receiving the homage of the Lords spiritual and temporal. What a splendid opportunity is offered on Coronation Day for explaining to the people why they should 'honour' their Queen! This matter is but too little thought of and understood at the present day, and far too many people have the idea that a people-made President is as good as a divinely anointed Sovereign."

The Duke of Westminster has promised to build a handsome new church, vicarage, and schools for St. Mary's parish, Chester, and also to provide suitable sites on his property within the parish. The church and rectory alone will cost his Grace £20,000. The Duchess of Westminster has consented to lay the foundation stone of the rectory, while the Duke will perform the same ceremony at the church towards the close of this month.

At the meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Society on Wednesday, July 1, 1885, the following members were present :—Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, Bishop of Carlisle, Lord Colchester, Sir R. Wilbraham, Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., Archdeacon Burney, Canon Gregory, Canon Wingfield, Canon Furse, Rev. C. E. Brooke, Mr. F. S. Powell, Mr. F. Calvert, and Rev. J. S. Brownrigg (acting secretary). The following were appointed a Finance Committee for the ensuing year :—Archdeacon Burney, Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, M.P., Mr. F. S. Powell, Rev. Canon Gregory, Mr. F. Calvert, Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., Sir Richard Wilbraham, and Rev. Canon Furse. The following grants were voted :—For building and enlarging schools, £269; repairs and improvements, £92; fittings, £8; books, £5 10s.; total, £374 10s.

The meetings at the centres of Yorkshire during the past week—Huddersfield, Leeds, Bradford, and Dewsbury—in promotion of the scheme to divide the See of Ripon and establish a new bishopric of Wakefield, have been most successful. Bishop Carpenter, notwithstanding a bereavement in his family, presided at each meeting, and explained at length the scheme. Upwards of £2,000 was subscribed at the last of the meetings, including £1,000 from Mr. E. B. W. Balme. At the Huddersfield meeting four subscriptions of £1,000 each were given by Mrs. Brooke, Mr. J. H. Brooke, Mr. W. Brooke, and Mr. T. Brooke. At Bradford about £2,000 was contributed, including £500 from Mr. F. C. Lister. In all about £30,000 has been subscribed, and above £40,000 has yet to be raised. The population of the proposed new diocese will be about 650,000 leaving about 850,000 in the See of Ripon. Sheffield, Halifax, and Bradford have each been suggested as the central place of the new See, but it has been decided that Wakefield, in South Yorkshire, is the most eligible centre, and efforts are now being concentrated with the view of forming a Wakefield bishopric. The Archbishops of York and Canterbury are each favourable to the scheme, and there is to be a meeting this month in London in furtherance of it, when the Archbishops will probably be present.

The Duchess of Westminster on Saturday laid the foundation-stone of a new Assembly-hall of vast dimensions in the Mile-end-road, to be used in connection with the Tower Hamlets Mission. The hall is to replace a temporary building put up in 1877, which, although it can accommodate 2,000 worshippers, has been found too small, so that on Sunday nights hundred are turned away for want of room. The frontage buildings of the new sanctuary have already been erected at a cost of £7,000. They cover a site of 90ft. in width and 40ft. in depth, comprising a spacious coffee palace, which will be self-supporting; a book saloon for the sale of pure literature, and various clubrooms on the three upper floors, with offices, besides accommodation for the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association. Three fine entrances, one central and one on either wing, lead into an octagonal vestibule. The design is deemed perfect for the purpose on account of the number of exits. Behind this vestibule will stand the new hall of worship, which is to hold about 5,000, which provision is expected to be nonetoo ample for Sunday nights. The height will be nearly 50ft. in the clear, the depth 134ft., and the width 70ft. There are to be two galleries with double platforms and space for organ and choir. The ceiling, for acoustic purposes, is to be nearly flat. The contract price for the erection of the hall is £14,000. The Duke of Westminster presided at the ceremony, supported by many friends of the mission, including the Hon. Ion Keith-Falconer, Lady Beauchamp, the Hon. Elizabeth Waldegrave, Lady Hobart, and the Right Hon. A. S. Ayrton. His Grace stated that the £7,000 required for the frontage had already been subscribed, and they were paying their way as they went along. The new hall would be the largest in which any voice could well be heard, and would be but a few feet smaller than Mr. Spurgeon's Metropolitan Tabernacle. The contractor has undertaken to have the premises ready for occupation by Christmas next. Of the £14,000 required for the hall £4,000 had been subscribed, leaving £10,000 more to be raised. The chairman then briefly addressed the company. He said it was the bounden duty of the wealthy in the West to help their poorer neighbours in the East, and there could not be too many institutions of that kind established. He alluded to the schemes which had been satisfactorily begun that would be conducive to the benefit of the East-enders, including that important movement, in which he was glad to have taken some part, for the establishment of a great riverside fishmarket at Shadwell, also that splendid scheme advocated by Sir E. Currie in connection with the Beaumont Trust Fund. There was ample room in Mile-end for such institutions as the present, and Mr. Charrington's noble, useful, and beneficent undertaking had his best wishes. The Duchess then laid the foundation stone with a silver trowel presented to her by the Hon. Ion Keith-Falconer, a large number of purses being afterwards handed to her Grace.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.

Dr. Moberly, Bishop of Salisbury, died at his episcopal residence, The Close, Salisbury, on Monday morning, at half-past eight o'clock. The Right Rev. Prelate had been ailing for some time, and no hope was entertained of his recovery after Thursday, on which day his family were summoned to his bedside. There was, however, on Friday and Saturday, a slight accession of strength, but on Sunday morning there was a perceptible decline. The last hour of the Bishop's life was peaceful, and it appears that his Lordship showe1 no sign of consciousness after three o'clock on Sunday afternoon. The bulletin which was placed outside the Palace ran as follows —"The Bishop passed peacefully away." No surprise was created by the announcement in the city, but there were evidences of general sorrow. His Lordship had entered into the public enterprises of the city, and all its philanthropic schemes had his warmest sympathy. Of late years he had not been able to show much activity owing to his advanced age and failing powers. So feeble had he become that he could scarcely walk without assistance. The work of the renovation of the Cathedral engaged Dr. Moberly's closest attention. He had in the late Dean Hamilton one who was in thorough sympathy with him in his endeavour to perfect the building, and the evidence of the success of their labours is seen in an admirably consistent and faithful renovation. The Bishop was patron of the principal diocesan societies, and continued the support given by his predecessor to the Theological College, which during his prelacy has been enlarged. When Dr. Moberly was appointed to the Bishopric of Salisbury, in 1869, he was a well-known divine. His work at Winchester School had been widely and generally appreciated, and many of his old "boys" were among his clergy. When a suggestion was made that he should be presented by the diocese with a portrait of himself it was received with applause, and the appeal was readily responded to. The portrait was by Professor Richmond, and was presented to his Lordship by the Marquis of Bath. Further evidence of the respect in which he was held was furnished in the great regret expressed at the announcement of his impending resignation. Although that step was known to be imminent, so feeble had the Bishop become in the last few weeks that it was considered inadvisable to bring the matter before him. About two months ago his Lordship celebrated his golden wedding, his family being present. He had nearly completed his 82nd year. Mrs. Moberly was at the Palace when the Bishop died, and the greatest solicitude is expressed in the diocese as to her condition.

The Right Rev. George Moberly, D.C.L., was was born in 1803 in St. Petersburg, where his father was established as a merchant. He was educated at Winchester, and passed to Balliol College, Oxford. He graduated B.A. in 1825, obtaining first-class honours, and gained the Chancellor's Prize for the English Essay in 1826. He graduated M.A. in 1828, and D.C.L. in 1836. In 1837 he was appointed Master of Winchester School, but resigned the post in 1866, when he was appointed to the living of Brightstone, in the Isle of Wight. He was made Canon of Chester in 1868, and was nominated Bishop of Salisbury in 1869, on the death of Dr. Hamilton. Dr. Moberly was the author of various volumes of sermons, several works on ecclesiastical and educational subjects, and was one of the five clergymen who published revised versions of several books of the New Testament.

THE HOUSE OF LAYMEN AND MATTERS OF FAITH AND DOCTRINE.

A discussion on this subject has just taken place in the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury. With reference to the proposed House of Laymen, the Lower House some time ago passed a number of resolutions, of which the eighth was as follows :—

That the subjects on which the House of Laymen may be consulted shall be all subjects which ordinarily occupy the attention of Convocation, saving only those which shall be judged especially to touch faith and doctrine.

This has been since struck out by the Upper House, who substituted the following proviso :—

Provided that nothing in this scheme shall be held to impair the right of this sacred Synod to pronounce finally for the province on all questions of faith and doctrine according to the ancient usage of this Church and Realm

In the recent debate Canon Gregory said that in his opinion No. 8 was the turning point of the whole scheme, and if it had not been included when the resolutions left this House he should have opposed the scheme altogether. The proviso which had been substituted for it implied a great deal, but was more perilous than the resolution, and would destroy their positions on all questions which could not be brought under the head of faith and doctrine. The question was, What were matters of faith and doctrine? Some persons held that ritual involved questions of faith and doctrine, but others did not; and it would be possible for a majority in Convocation to say that it was not included. He believed these resolutions as amended by the Upper House would destroy the old institution; they would be sacrificing the very principles they had struggled for if they agreed to these amended resolutions. It had always been his opinion that they ought to have explained in these resolutions why they wanted this house of laymen, for that would go a long way to give a tone to the house of laymen. As it was the laymen would not quite see what they were expected to do. People said, "Trust the laity." He would trust any one in his own way. If he had a perfect trust in his lawyer he would not ask him to prescribe for him in an illness or ask a doctor in whom he had confidence to draw a will. (Laughter.) They required that those who were skilled and expert from training and long experience should be the authorities to pronounce on matters of faith and doctrine.

Archdeacon Hessey remarked that the resolution No. 8 was not to limit the subjects of debate, which they did not wish the House of Laymen to deal with, but to define the subjects on which the President might consult them. That was not met by the proviso added by the Upper House. It said in effect to the lay house, if the words were not mere surplusage, "We will consult you, and we will hear you, but will not follow your advice."

Dr. Bright said that in his opinion, whatever standpoint the House adopted, it would be impossible for it to accept the proviso inserted by the Upper House, as it stood. He asked the House to consider whether the safeguard was real. In his opinion it was unreal, nugatory—a mere shadow. (Cheers.) On that ground alone it would be quite unworthy of the dignity of the House to accept it. It provided, to put it briefly, that laymen should not pronounce finally on matters of faith and doctrine. But on the hypothesis of those who advocated the formation of a House of Laymen, that House was not to pronounce finally upon any subject under the sun. He claimed that on this ground alone the proviso did not meet the case. It had been said, during the first debate on the matter in the Upper House, that laymen in ancient times were asked to advise even the great councils on questions of theology. But what laymen? They were not a body of laymen similar to that which was to be called together in the proposed new house, but certain remarkably gifted laymen who spoke on theological questions with special authority. Let them be careful, if they referred to ancient precedents, to quote them correctly.

Dr. Crosse wished to direct attention to the words "in accordance with the ancient usage of this Church and realm." By the settlement of 1661 the Articles became part of the law of the land, and according to the 20th Article the Church had authority in controversies of faith, and, according to the canons, "the Church" was to be interpreted in that connection as that sacred Synod. He considered, therefore, that Convocation had, under the Constitution, a legal right to decide questions of faith and doctrine, and that they had no authority to delegate it to a voluntary body.

Archdeacon Harrison asked who was to be the judge whether the subject was one of faith and doctrine, and he wished to have a distinct answer to that question? It was the function of the House of Convocation to guard the doctrine and discipline of the Church of God; but he could not see that what was now proposed would do other than endanger them, and he earnestly hoped that the House would not accede to it.

Canon Hole believed that if they had a House of Laymen sitting now, and they could submit the present question to them, the House of Laymen would tell Convocation that they really did not want to consider matters of faith and doctrine. He had heard this opinion expressed by men who would be sure to be members of the House of Laymen.

Canon Gregory was in favour of the adoption of some words which would not throw the whole matter of faith and doctrine before the mixed assembly. Archdeacon Emery had counselled them to trust the laity, but in doing so they might be trusting men who did not know whether the Church began at the Reformation or at the time of their blessed Lord. For his part he preferred rather to trust knowledge than to trust ignorance. He moved that the last clause of No. 8 should be as follows :—"Saving only the definition or interpretation of the faith and doctrine of the Church." This was carried *nem. con.*

Canon Hopkins proposed that the proviso should be as follows :—"Provided that nothing in this scheme shall be held to prejudice the duties, rights, or privileges of this sacred Synod according to the laws and usages of this Church and realm." This amended proviso was also carried.

Dr. Liddon writes to the *Guardian* on the question whether the proposed House of Laymen shall be consulted without being allowed finally to pronounce on matters of faith and doctrine :—

"The object of the proposal is, no doubt, to conciliate the goodwill of religious laymen; but there are, we need to be told, forms of *captatio benevolentiæ* which are more irritating than is silence. Any class of laymen which is anxious to be consulted on questions of theology is probably not less anxious to have a hand in deciding them; and, indeed, men must be very unselfish and conscientious to take pains in advising those who tell them that the subject on which they are consulted is absolutely reserved for the decision of others than themselves.

"The Lower House of Convocation would seem to be on strong ground in resolving—

That the subjects on which the House of Laymen shall be consulted shall not include matters of faith and doctrine.

This resolution leaves an enormous field open to the energy and the influence of the House of Laymen, while it avoids a question which the Upper House of Convocation does not wish to raise, but is not unlikely to raise, against its will, sooner or later, if the 'permission' which it recommends be endorsed by the Lower House.

"Bishop Hamilton used to say that the vote which a man gives on a doctrinal question in Synod is a much more emphatic exercise of the 'ministry of the Word' than preaching a sermon in Salisbury Cathedral. The Synodical decision is of the two the more public and influential act; its effects are more permanent. That pious laymen, acting under their Bishop's authority, may exhort, warn, or console other Christians with great advantage does not show that they may teach Christian doctrine, in the capacity of its authorised exponents, still less that they may shape by their votes those formularies which enshrine and express Christian doctrine, and impose it authoritatively upon the thought and conscience of the Church. If a layman may vote on a doctrinal question in a Church Synod, it is not easy to understand what authority to minister the Word of God is given by ordination which the candidate for holy orders does not already, as a Christian layman, possess.

"Moreover, it is no disparagement to laymen to state that very few of them have time or opportunity for a serious study of theology. Some great exceptions, such as the late Prime Minister, or Mr. J. W. Lea, will occur to everybody. But, as not long since the present Primate observed, theology is a science, and to be mastered as such it requires application of a different kind and degree from that which a good Christian layman devotes to his Bible and his Creed, in order to 'work out his salvation.' In this matter the Church of Ireland may well furnish us with a serious warning; the havoc wrought in her Prayer-Book by the General 'Synod' is largely due to the votes of laymen. That they voted as they did was probably their misfortune rather than their fault. The theory of their 'Synodical' position supposed them to be profound students of a subject of which, without any dereliction of ordinary lay duties, they were, for the most part, profoundly ignorant. In the absence of real information, they had to fall back on personal or popular prejudices. And before English Churchmen take the first step in a direction which has elswhere proved to be so fruitful in disaster, would it not be prudent to inquire whether St. George's Channel makes so great a difference in the theological temper and acquirements of laymen as to enable us—if it were right on other grounds—to take the step in question with a prospect of assured impunity?"

DISESTABLISHMENT IN SCOTLAND.

Dr. Bright, Canon of Christ Church, writes :—"Ecclesiastically, that Scottish communion with which we ourselves are on terms of spiritual fellowship must be 'the Scottish Church' for us. The *Times* of June 20 explicitly pointed out that the two established bodies could not unite for joint defensive aciion on ecclesiastical grounds, for 'the ecclesiastical ground did not exist,' the Church of England being in communion, not with the Established Church of Scotland, but with the Episcopal Church in Scotland." Of Established Presbyterianism, he says :—"We know when and how it became established. We are well aware of the great services which it has rendered to the cause of religion in Scotland: we deprecate its disestablishment as likely to weaken that cause, and also to embarrass Scottish Episcopacy by an influx of conformists who would not be converts. But we surely cannot, as Churchmen, unite with it as with a sister Church, in a campaign of Church defence.' The Church is not defended by inconsistency, nor, one may add, by optimist language about the *English* conditions of Establishment."

Lord Egerton of Tatton has since made the following remarks :—

"The Establisment in Scotland is at present the only means by which the Scotch people can have that national recognition of religion which we Churchmen desire to maintain in Great Britain. Think as we may about the so-called antagonism of the two Churches, there remains the undisputed fact that the Establishment in Scotland is the outwork of the defence of the English Church against disestablishment. Lord Salisbury's excellent remarks on disestablishment in the two countries delivered on Friday last represent, I believe, the views of the majority of English Churchmen."

The Secretary of the Church Defence Institution adds :—

"No alliance in the natural sense of that word has been either sought or ratified between the Church Defence Institution and those who desire to maintain in its present position the Established Church of Scotland. It follows that no funds subscribed by English Churchmen for the defence of the National Church of England will be devoted to work in Scotland. The position taken up by the Church Defence Institution involves, as it seems to me, no discourtesy to the Episcopal Church of Scotland, with which, as Canon Bright observes, we are 'in spiritual fellowship,' and, of course, nothing of the kind was intended. Not as Anglican Churchmen, but as Christian citizens, we desire to maintain the national recognition of Christianity in Scotland as well as in England, and though

some of us may regret that Presbyterianism is the only form of Established Christianity possible in Scotland, the fact remains, and we cannot alter it."

THE BISHOPS AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

The Lord Mayor entertained the Archbishops and Bishops at a banquet in the Egyptian-hall at the Mansion House on Wednesday. Among those present were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Winchester, the Bishop of St. Albans, the Bishop of Hereford, the Bishop of Manchester, the Bishop of Carlisle, the Bishop of Lichfield, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Chester, the Bishop of Llandaff, the Bishop of Lincoln, the Bishop of Derry, the Bishop of Limerick, the Bishop of Colchester, the Bishop of Edinburgh, the Bishop of Bedford, the Bishop of Antigua, the Bishop of Athabasca, the Bishop of Nassau, the Bishop of Victoria, the Bishop of Brisbane, Bishop M'Dougall, Bishop Ryan, the Bishop of Pretoria, Bishop Titcomb, Lord Egerton of Tatton, the Dean of Westminster, the Dean of Worcester, the Dean of Gloucester, Archdeacon Hessey, Archdeacon Gifford, Sir R. Cross, M.P., Mr. H. S. Northcote, M.P., Sir J. Mowbray, M.P., Sir T. Chambers, M.P., Mr. Alderman Cotton, M.P., Sir J. Pease, M.P., Sir R. Carden, M.P., Sir W. M'Arthur, M.P., Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., Mr. G. Cubitt, M.P., and a number of ladies.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY, in responding to the toast of the Archbishops and Bishops, remarked that it was upon their work in carrying the faith of Christ to all the would that all true respect for the clergy must be based. Six hundred years ago one of his predecessors received from the Pope a letter addressed to him in these remarkable terms:—"To the most fervent monk, to the warm-hearted abbot, to the lukewarm Bishop, and to the idle Archbishop." That was the character which he had earned for himself. "Monacho ferventissimo, abbati calido, episcopo tepido, archi-episcopo remisso." He was glad to be able to say that those days were past, and that the longer one lived now the more work there was to do. As regarded the work of the Church of England throughout the world, while thirty years ago there were but seven foreign Sees in connection with the See of Canterbury there were now seventy-five, four of which had been added since he was first received at that Hall. He did not believe there ever was a time in the history of the Church when she had her hand on more work. He did not believe there ever was a time when there was such a vast body of the Church—not only clergy, but laity—who were so devoted to Church work, and who spent their time and strength and energies upon it, and were ready to sacrifice everything for God's cause. When the toast of Church and Queen was drunk, he heard an hon. baronet, a member of Parliament, not professing adhesion to the Church of England, remark to the Lord Mayor that he considered himself within the toast if he drew the Church large enough. That was exactly what they wanted to do. They wanted to draw the Church large enough to include all. There never was a time when the Church was so universally stretching out its arms in all directions, and when Churchmanship was so entirely apart from politics. He hoped that the time might be far distant when a man's Churchmanship should be an indication of the political party to which he belonged. He was a living instance of how little politics had to do with the Church, for while he was appointed to the See of Truro by Lord Beaconsfield, it was Mr. Gladstone who appointed him to the archdiocese, and he had no doubt that neither Lord Beaconsfield nor Mr. Gladstone concerned themselves for one moment as to what his politics were. He could conceive nothing worse for this country than the intrusion of the State Church into politics—he meant politics in their common and lower sense, for there was one sense in which politics belonged to the Church, and in which it had not been wanting in its advocacy—namely, in urging the people to take a higher view of their social duties and to have a hearty faith in their convictions, whatever they might be. Might God grant that this peace might continue, and that the Church might know that the great commission was hers to visit the dark corners of the earth, and especially the dark corners of the cities of her own land, to teach the ignorant, to preach the Gospel to the poor, and to proclaim liberty to the captive of every sort and kind, and to none so much as to those who were the victims of their own passions or of others! If she so fulfilled the example of the Divine Master peace would be hers always.

THE COURT.

Divine service was performed on Sunday in the presence of the Queen, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Princess Beatrice, and several members of her Majesty's household, at the Royal mausoleum at Frogmore, by the Very Rev. Randall T. Davidson, Dean of Windsor, who afterwards officiated and preached in the private chapel at the Castle, at twelve o'clock. The Countess Feodore Gleichen lunched with her Majesty and the Royal family. Her Majesty guests left the Castle. Major and the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Egerton and the Very Rev. Randall Davidson dined with the Queen.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice will leave Windsor Castle for Osborne this (Saturday) morning.

Apartments are being redecorated and refurnished for the occupation of Princess Beatrice and her husband, both at Windsor Castle and at Buckingham Palace; and it is understood that when staying with the Queen at Osborne they will inhabit the Pavilion.

On Monday, the 29th of June, Mrs. Harold Browne had the honour of presenting to her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice a carved oak bookcase, containing a complete series of the standard English poets, together with an illuminated address. The gift was the result of small contributions ranging from 1d. to 5s., sent to Mrs. Harold Browne by mothers and daughters belonging to all classes resident in the diocese of Winchester, in which Osborne is situated.

The wedding gift for Princess Beatrice subscribed for by the ladies of Windsor and the district consists of a massive, elegantly embossed, silver-gilt toilet service and a pair of candlesticks, bearing the monogram and coronet of the Princess.

The wedding gift subscribed for by the inhabitants of Eton, Windsor, and vicinity for Princess Beatrice has been selected. It consists of a gold bracelet set with diamonds, and was presented to her Royal Highness at Windsor Castle yesterday (Friday) by the Mayor and committee.

The Headmaster and the Assistant Masters of Eton College have presented Princess Beatrice with a diamond locket. The wedding gift subscribed for by the students of the school is a diamond and pearl bracelet.

The Queen's servants in the departments of the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, the Master of the Horse, and the Royal gardeners of Shaw Farm and Osborne have presented Princess Beatrice with a handsome wedding gift. Her Royal Highness, in acknowledging it, observed that she was anxious to express her warmest thanks to all who joined in making her such a present on the occasion of her marriage, and that this mark of kindness would always be valued by her as coming from many who had known her from her childhood. The Princess has been presented, at Buckingham Palace, with a grand piano by Brinsmead, a wedding gift from ladies residing in Kensington.

Among the principal guests at the approaching wedding of Princess Beatrice will be the Grand Duke and the Hereditary Grand Duke of Hesse, Princesses Irene and Alix and Prince Alexander of Hesse, the Princess of Battenberg, and Prince Francis Joseph of Battenberg. The entire party, together with the bridegroom, Prince Henry of Battenberg, will leave Darmstadt on the 19th inst. for England, travelling *vid* Flushing. It is anticipated that Prince Alexander, the reigning Sovereign of Bulgaria, will also accompany the party to England. Prince Henry of Battenberg has already returned to Darmstadt from Berlin. The German Crown Prince and most of his family will probably also be present at the wedding. The date of their departure for England is, however, not yet known.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Mr. Henry Longley, Second Charity Commissioner, to be Chief Charity Commissioner for England and Wales.

The attention of the Government having been drawn to the case of the family of the late Mr. Frank Power, Her Majesty's Consul at Khartoum, the Queen has granted four pensions of £50 per annum each upon the Civil List to the Misses Power, of Merrion-square, Dublin, sisters of Mr. Frank Power.

Princess Frederica presented the prizes on Thursday at Exeter Hall to the successful essayists in connection with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Lord Aberdare presided, and there were present, among others, Lady Aberdare, the Duchess of Sutherland, Sir Francis and Lady Burdett, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Lady Francis Trevanion, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Bishop of Carlisle, and Mr. Arthur Arnold, M.P.

The ninth anniversary meeting of the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain was held on Thursday at the Royal Institution, Albemarle-street, under the presidency of Sir John Lubbock, M.P., who said he believed in more light rather than more law in sanitary matters. In the evening the anniversary dinner took place at the Holborn Restaurant, Captain Douglas Galton presiding.

Mr. Woodall, M.P., presided on Thursday at the annual meeting of the central committee of the National Society for Women's Suffrage, and said that the fact that in the approaching extension of the franchise educated and responsible women householders must stand aside was an anomaly which could not last much longer. The other speakers in support of the movement included Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., Mr. Coleridge Kennard, M.P., Mr. Justin M'Carthy, M.P., and Professor Stuart, M.P., who said he would be glad to see ladies in the House of Commons.

Commander Henshaw Russell, R.N., who was previously the assistant manager, has been appointed manager of the Crystal Palace Company.

The little town of Cranbrook was *en fête* on the occasion of the opening of a new block of buildings in connection with Cranbrook Grammar School. The ceremony was to have been performed by Lord Cranbrook, but the Cabinet Council prevented his lordship from being present, and his place was filled by his eldest son, Mr. J. S. Gathorne-Hardy, M.P. The ceremony consisted of a short dedicatory service, which was followed by several speeches and a short musical performance by some members of the school. During the opening ceremony the headmaster announced that he had received letters from Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., the Bishop of Dover, Archdeacons Bateson and Hessey, and other gentlemen, regretting their inability to be present.

At the meeting of the London School Board on Thursday, a discussion took place on a resolution moved by Miss Helen Taylor, to the effect that the Board petition Parliament for power to open all its Elementary schools free to children of school age. This was rejected by nineteen votes to eighteen. The subject is to come up again at the next sitting.

A fire broke out in the University College of Wales at Aberystwith about midnight on Wednesday, and resulted in the destruction of the northern wing of the building. During the fire the floor of an upper room gave way, and six or seven men fell into the burning *débris*. Three were taken out seriously injured, and the remains of the other three were found later in the day. The damage sustained is estimated at forty thousand pounds.

Mr. John Henry Madeley, who has occupied the chief editorial position in the Press Association for the past five years, died at his residence at Highbury on Wednesday morning, after a brief illness, at the age of 38. Mr. Madeley was well known both in London and Birmingham, at which latter place he was for some time connected with the *Birmingham Gazette* and the *Birmingham Morning News*. Mr. Madeley was greatly respected by all his colleagues.

A grand musical service and festival will be held in the nave of Westminster Abbey on Tuesday evening next, to commemorate the bicentenary of the birth of Handel in 1685, who was buried in the Abbey in 1759. Madame Albani has consented to sing. Handel's Dettingen "Te Deum" and other works will be performed under the conductorship of Dr. J. F. Bridge, with full orchestra and chorus. Dr. Stainer will preside at the organ. The offertory will be in aid of the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain, of which benevolent society Handel was one of the founders and members.

Early on Wednesday morning a fire broke out in the midst of an extensive block of factories in Bermondsey. The Fire Brigade, with steam fire engines, arrived early, but the fire was not fully mastered for about two hours, and owing to the large space over which it had obtained hold the loss has been considerable, being estimated at from £30,000 to £40,000. No person was injured.

In reply to a memorial recently sent to him from Dublin, Earl Spencer writes as follows:—"*Spencer House, St. James's-place, London, July* 5, 1885.—Gentlemen,—You were good enough to present me with a memorial from the Citizens' Committee, constituted by the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, on the subject of a Royal residence in Ireland, at a moment of great political uncertainty. Mr. Gladstone had resigned office, and Lord Salisbury had not formed a Government. It was impossible for me, under the circumstances, to deal with the important questions which your memorial raised. I have now ceased to be connected officially with Ireland, and it will rest with my successor and the new Government to deal with Irish policy. I wish, however, to state that I have the strongest sympathy with the views which you put forward. I should be glad to see a Royal residence in Ireland, as I believe that it would connect more intimately than at present the Crown and Royal family with the Irish people, and thus form cordial and friendly relations between Great Britain and Ireland."

The engagement of the band of the Pomeranian (Blücher) Hussars at the Inventions Exhibition terminated on Saturday evening, when an exceptionally large number of visitors were present to hear the last concert given by this famous trumpet corps. In addition to the ordinary programme the Pomeranian and Grenadier Guards' bands combined, and, conducted by Mr. Dan Godfrey, played the "Tannhauser" march. In the morning the Pomeranians played in the gardens of Marlborough House before the Prince of Wales, who is honorary colonel-in-chief of the regiment. On the conclusion of the performance the Prince complimented Herr Karlipp on his conducting, and presented him with a handsome gold watch and chain, having the Royal monogram surrounded by the insignia of the Garter and Black Eagle on the case.

The Corporation of Guildford have purchased for £2,200 Guildford Castle keep and the surrounding grounds from the lord of the manor, Lord Grantley, to be used as public walks and pleasure grounds. The keep, which is the principal portion of the castle now remaining, is Norman of about the year 1150.

A meeting was held on Monday at the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor presiding, at which a Society was launched, to be called the Volunteer Forces Benevolent Association. The Duke of Cambridge expressed his sympathy with the movement, which is intended for the relief of past or present members of the Volunteer Forces, their widows or orphans. Many leading supporters of the Volunteer movement also supported the scheme. Public assistance to float the project will be welcomed, and it is hoped that ultimately the Association will become self-supporting.

The commemoration festival of Sherborne School was held last week, when the proceedings were opened with a special service in the fine old abbey church, which is still in process of restoration. The Bishop of Bath and Wells preached, and addressed his sermon especially to his younger hearers. At the close of the service the boys, nearly 400 in number, filed out first, and the visitors followed, to the schoolroom, where the speeches were delivered and prizes distributed by the headmaster, the Rev. E. M. Young. The Bishop of Bath and Wells remained to hear the boys recite their compositions, and among those present were Lord John Hervey and Lady Katherine Duncombe, and the Dean of Wells (Dr. Plumptre), the Rev. Canon Lyon, Vicar of Sherborne, Mr. J. R. P. Goodden, Sir Talbot Baker, and other governors of the school. In the Latin *contio* W. H. G. Southcomb, captain of the school, congratulating those of his fellow Sherbornians, past or present, who had been successful in winning first-class honours, mentioned the election of Mr. Alfred Whitehead to a Fellowship at Trinity College, Cambridge, and at Oxford the success of Mr. Francis Lys, who, in addition to taking a first-class in Moderations, was the winner of the Chancellor's Prize for Latin verse. Aldous came up to take a prize for Greek prose, and subsequently one for Latin prose. Southcomb followed him, receiving a prize for Latin hexameters, and later the prize for Greek iambics and the Leweston prize for classical scholarship. A prize for an English essay was gained by Bardswell for a sketch of the life of St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo. There were several other prize-winners.

The United States Minister was on Saturday entertained at a dinner, at which a message from President Cleveland was read in reply to congratulations that had been telegraphed to him on the anniversary of American Independence. Mr. Phelps and the Duke of Argyll responded to the toast of "Prosperity to America and Great Britain." Replying to the toast of his health, Mr. Bright dwelt on the growth of the English-speaking race, and predicted that the time would come, and his children or grandchildren would certainly see it, when the American nation, having by vast sacrifices of blood and treasure accomplished the freedom of men, would also establish the freedom of labour. He also maintained that the two great nations which were divided by the Atlantic would to a great extent guide the future policy of the world, and observed that he was satisfied that if it were possible for England, France, Germany, Austria, Russia, and Italy to abolish their tariffs and let their commerce flow freely, no monarch or statesman would be able to bring those nations to war.

The Registrar-General's return for the week ending Saturday, July 4, says that the deaths registered last week in twenty-eight great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 18·0 per 1,000 of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 8,906,446 persons in the middle of this year. The six healthiest places were Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Brighton, Nottingham, and Leicester. In London 2,483 births and 1,366 deaths were registered. Allowance being made for increase of population, the births were 158, and the deaths 118, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had declined in the ten preceding weeks from 22.3 to 16.3, rose again last week to 17.5. During the thirteen weeks ending last Saturday the death-rate averaged 19·3 per 1,000, against 20·8, the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the nine years 1876-84. The 1,366 deaths included twenty-six from smallpox, eighty from measles, nine from scarlet fever, eighteen from diphtheria, fifty-nine from whooping-cough, one from typhus, nine from enteric fever, two from ill-defined forms of continued fever, fifty-one from diarrhœa and dysentery, and one from cholera; thus 256 deaths were referred to these diseases, being fifteen below the corrected average weekly number. The fatal cases of smallpox registered in London had declined from thirty-eight to thirteen in the five preceding weeks. In Greater London 3,185 births and 1,713 deaths were registered, equal to annual rates of 32·0 and 17·2 per 1,000 of the population. In the Outer Ring fifteen fatal cases of smallpox, twenty-three of measles, and ten of whooping-cough were registered; thirteen of smallpox, fourteen of measles, and three of whooping-cough were returned in the district of West Ham.

A very interesting exhibition was opened on Tuesday at the residence of the Earl and Countess Brownlow, 3, Carlton-house-terrace, under the auspices of the Home Arts and Industries Association. The object of the association, of which Earl Brownlow is president, is to spread a practical knowledge of artistic handwork among the working classes, and so revive our village industries, by the formation of classes throughout the country, the attendance at which, as well as the teaching, is almost entirely voluntary. The exhibition includes a varied selection of specimens of carved wood hammered brass, pottery, leather work, &c., executed by the pupils, many of whom are mere children, attending the classes at Atbridge, Ellesmere, Keswick, Lincoln, Ampthill, Newton Abbott, and Kensington. Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Princess Victoria, visited the exhibition in the afternoon, and expressed great interest in the objects and work of the association. Among other visitors were the Duchess of Buccleuch, the Marquis of Lorne, Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Countess of Pembroke, the Countess of Wharncliffe, the Countess of Longford, the Countess Cowper, the Countess Fitzwilliam, Lady Fitzhardinge, Lady Emma Talbot, Lady Elizabeth Cust, Lady Charles Beresford, Lady Catherine Weyland, the Dean of Worcester, Lady Alwyne Compton, and Mr. Poynter, R.A.

A numerous party assembled on Tuesday in what the Postmaster-General described as a "well-lighted and airy cavern" underneath the General Post-office, for the purpose of witnessing the despatch of the first Post-office parcel mail to Gibraltar, Aden, and India. Among those present were Lord and Lady John Manners, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, the Dowager Duchess of Manchester, Mr. S. A. Blackwood, Sir Charles du Cane, the Postmaster-General of South Australia, and many of the chief officials of the Post-office. The mail consisted of twenty-four boxes, of which eighteen were for India, one for Aden, three for Port Said, and two for Gibraltar, containing 1,104 parcels, of the aggregate weight of 1 ton 871b. All but one of the boxes were fastened up and sealed, one parcel, with the envelope containing the "bill" of the whole box, remaining to be inserted. Mr. S. Blackwood handed the parcel to the Postmaster-General, who said he felt much pleasure at being present, but he felt that the honour of bringing about such an important event was due to his predecessor, and he therefore invited Mr. Shaw-Lefevre to close the mail. The ex-Postmaster-General having acknowledged the courtesy of his successor in office, said the principal credit was due to his predecessor, Mr. Fawcett, and to the permanent officials, especially Mr. Jeffrey and Mr. Baines. He sincerely hoped that the negotiations still going on with the Colonies and foreign Powers would be brought to an equally happy conclusion, so that a complete international parcels post would be established. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre then proceeded to give at some length interesting details of the working of the parcels post at home, and the efforts which he had made to reduce the charges, although he had not succeeded in persuading the railway companies to adopt his tariff. He had also been anxious to introduce a system of insurance. In conclusion, he promised to give the Postmaster-General in Parliament an equally cordial support to that which had been afforded himself and Mr. Fawcett. Having deposited the last parcel in the box amid much applause, the box was duly closed and sealed, Lady John Manners affixing the first seal after a little speech, in which she thanked Mr. Shaw-Lefevre for having contributed to the happiness of many families both at home and in India. The boxes were then taken up by the hydraulic lift and sent by vans to the Albert Docks, where they were placed on board the P. and O. steamship *Verona*.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending July 4 was—medical 830, surgical 361; total 1,191, of which 474 were new cases.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d.

LATEST NEWS.

PARIS, July 10.

The Minister of War received this morning two telegrams from General de Courcy, in the first of which the General requests the Minister of Marine to give orders to the naval commander to furnish him with a certain number of tug boats, in order to facilitate military movements between Thuanan and Hué.

In the second despatch General de Courcy reports that he has requested the inhabitants of the suburbs of Hué, among whom are a certain number of Chinese notables and merchants, to return to their homes, where they will enjoy the complete protection of the French authorities.

The General also calls upon the partisans of the insurgent Thuyet to surrender within twelve days, dating from the 9th inst. He has ordered the disbandment of the different corps of the regular Annamite Army within the following periods:—The provinces of Thuathien and Quang Tri Quang Nom, eight days; for the provinces of Quang Binh Hating and Quang Nagas, fifteen days; and for the provinces of Nghean Than Hoa Binh Dinh and Phu Noc, twenty-one days.

The men are to deliver up their arms in the chief towns of the provinces, whence they will be forwarded to Hué, under the responsibility of the governors of the towns, who will also be responsible for the proper execution of the order.

NEW YORK, July 9.

A despatch from Lima states that according to intelligence received there from the interior, General Caceres had notified to the Peruvian Government that no further steps having been taken to proceed with the peace negotiations, he considered the armistice cancelled. The entire force under Caceres consequently attacked the Government troops near Jauja. The fighting lasted five hours, and the loss on both sides was severe. The two forces remain in their former positions. A later despatch announces that the armistice has been renewed.

SYDNEY, July 10.

The New South Wales Government is about to issue in London a new loan of £5,500,000, bearing interest at the rate of 3½ per cent.

BRUSSELS, July 10.

The *Moniteur Belge* to-day says:—Several journals, in announcing a domiciliary visit made yesterday by the police, state that its object was the discovery of an Anarchist plot. The details published on the subject are, however, entirely incorrect. The search made by the police was connected with a prosecution for the assumption of false names by two French subjects, one of whom has been convicted for vagrancy.

MADRID, July 10.

The official cholera bulletin issued this morning shows that 1,497 cases and 700 deaths occurred in Spain yesterday.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, the Duke of ARGYLL referred at length to the circumstances attending the recent change of Administration, and to the effect of them on the political prospects of the country.

In the Lower House, Sir M. HICKS-BEACH, replying to Mr. COLLINGS, stated that Her Majesty's Government had very carefully considered the question of disqualification by the receipt of medical relief, and had decided to propose legislation to the House on the subject. Notice would be given during the evening by the President of the Local Government Board to move on Monday for leave to introduce a Bill, which would be pressed forward with all possible speed.

Lord Salisbury has intimated to the Lord Mayor, in reply to his invitation to fix the date of the customary banquet to Her Majesty's Ministers at the Mansion House, that Wednesday, July 29th, will be a day convenient to the Ministry for accepting the Chief Magistrate's hospitality.

Mr. Marriott, Judge Advocate-General, was nominated at Brighton yesterday by General Shute (late member for Brighton). There being no other candidate, Mr. Marriott was declared duly elected.

The nomination for Chatham took place yesterday. As was expected, there was no opposition to the re-election of Mr. Gorst, the Solicitor-General, and the returning officer declared him duly elected.

With reference to the mistake in the Admiralty Estimates mentioned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday night, it is stated that the announcement caused considerable surprise on both sides of the House. Mr. Caine (ex-Civil Lord of the Admiralty) at once left the House, in order, it is understood, to consult with Lord Northbrook upon the subject. The Government, it is understood, contemplate in consequence a searching investigation into the working of the financial department of the Admiralty. It is probable that the appointment of a Parliamentary committee on the subject will be shortly proposed.

Some particulars regarding the exclusion of the Duke of Cumberland from the Brunswick succession have only now been made public in Berlin. When starting for the Berlin Congress in May, 1878, Lord Beaconsfield was, it is said, commissioned by the Queen to use his good offices for bringing about a reconciliation between the Royal families of Prussia and Hanover. Prince Bismarck declared his readiness to enter into negotiations, and, after being informed of the Queen's wishes, replied that Prussia would not oppose the Duke of Cumberland's accession to the Duchy of Brunswick if accompanied by a complete official renunciation of Hanover. Lord Beaconsfield transmitted this reply to the Queen, and not only Her Majesty, but also all the members of the Royal family, were of opinion that the Duke of Cumberland might and should give the guarantees asked for by the German Chancellor. A letter in this sense was addressed by the Queen to the Duke of Cumberland, who replied, however, in the following September that he would never renounce his claims to Hanover, nor did he think his assumption of duties as Duke of Brunswick incompatible with the reservation of all his rights. This answer caused the Royal family to abstain from all further interference in the matter. It has also, it is stated, conduced greatly to the absolute exclusion of the Duke of Cumberland from the Brunswick succession.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between Lord Lilford and Miss Cecilia Baillie Hamilton.

Also between the Rev. Lord Theobald Butler and Miss Gordon, daughter of the Rev. C. R. Gordon, D.D.

Also between Major Annesley, of the Royal Artillery, second son of the late Rev. William Annesley, vicar of Abbots Leigh, Somersetshire, and Miss Isabel Hanbury, third daughter of Mr. Charles A. Hanbury, of Belmont, Herts.

Also between Captain Gerald Liddell, second son of the Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, and Miss Elsa Reynolds, of Holybourne Priory, Alton, Hants, third daughter of Mr. Charles Reynolds, 102, Clifton-hill, formerly of Carshalton, Surrey.

Also between Miss Ethel M. Burges, second daughter of Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Burges, and Mr. Stronge, eldest son of Sir Calvert Stronge, Bart., and Lady Margaret Stronge, of Tynan Abbey, co. Armagh.

Also between the Hon. A. Brand, third son of Viscount Hampden, and Miss Edith Ingram, youngest daughter of the late Joseph Ingram, of Brooklands, Cheshire.

Also between Major S. C. Hickman, Royal Horse Artillery, second son of the late Mr. H. P. Hickman, of Fenloe, co. Clare, and Miss M. Knightley, youngest daughter of the late Rev. H .C. Knightley, of Combroke, Warwick. We understand the wedding is to take place in September at Fawsley, the seat of Sir Rainald Knightley.

A large and fashionable company assembled at St. Mary Abbotts Church, Kensington, on Tuesday morning, for the marriage of Mr. Windham Henry Wyndham-Quin (16th Lancers), eldest son of the late Hon. W. H. Wyndham-Quin, of Clearwell Court, Gloucester, with the Lady Eva Constance Aline Bourke, eldest daughter of Richard, sixth Earl of Mayo, and sister of the present Peer. The wedding guests began to arrive soon after eleven o'clock, and amongst those present were the Duke and Duchess of Leinster and Ladies Fitzgerald, the Marquis of Headfort and Lady Adelaide Taylour, the Marchioness (Dowager) of Conyngham and Lady Blanche Conyngham, the Earl and Countess of Dunraven, Earl Spencer, the Earl and Countess of Bandon, the Earl of Caledon, Lord and Lady Harlech, Lord and Lady Charles Lennox Kerr, Lord Emly, Lord Leconfield, Lord Elcho, Gen. Hon. John Bourke, Hon. R. and Lady Susan Bourke, Hon. H. and Mrs. Bourke, Hon. Algernon Bourke, Hon. Terence Bourke, Hon. Mrs. William Lowther, Mr. and Lady Fanny Lambart, Hon. W. Montgomery, Mr. and Lady Jane Vivian, Sir Hussey Vivian, Sir Edward and Lady Guinness, Mr. and Hon. Mrs. Barton, Mrs. and Miss Vivian, Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. More O'Farrall, &c. The bridegroom was attended by Captain W. H. Chetwynd, a brother officer, as best man. The bride came at a quarter to twelve o'clock, and was conducted to the chancel by her brother, the Earl of Mayo, who afterwards gave her away. She wore a very handsome dress; the train and bodice were of ivory brocatelle, and the satin petticoat was entirely covered with Brussels lace, of which her veil was also composed; she had a wreath of orange blossoms, and her ornaments, which were of pearls and diamonds, included a splendid diamond rivière, the gift of the Earl of Mayo. She was closely followed by two pages, the Hon. William and Hon. Hugh Wyndham, her cousins, who wore picturesque costumes of white satin, slashed with lemon-coloured satin, with which the little cloaks were lined, white satin caps with lemon feathers, and lemon silk stockings. The eight bridesmaids followed—viz., Lady Florence Bourke, sister of the bride; Lady Enid and Lady Rachel Wyndham-Quin, daughters of the Earl and Countess of Dunraven; Lady Edith Douglas, Miss Madeline Wyndham, Miss Geraldine Smith Barry, Miss Bourke, and Miss Forbes. They were charmingly but simply dressed in white muslin, the embroidered skirts being full and plain. They wore lemon-coloured soft silk sashes, and sailor hats veiled with muslin, and having white feathers and lemon ribbons. Each wore a diamond harp and shamrock brooch, the bridegroom's gift, and carried a bouquet of yellow roses. Some handsome dresses were to be seen among the wedding party. The Countess of Mayo (the bride's mother) was attired in pale water-coloured brocade and silk, her tulle bonnet of the same colour having velvet strings and trimmings of a darker shade. Countess Spencer was in gold-coloured satin, brocaded with crescents in a lighter shade, with panels and revers of brown velvet; her bonnet being of gold tulle, with feathers and trimmings to match her dress. Julia Marchioness of Tweeddale wore steel-grey satin, veiled with black lace, and white straw bonnet with mauve trimmings. The Countess of Caledon wore white embroidered cambric, and white straw bonnet with white trimmings; the Countess of Lovelace, white cashmere and lace, with gold bonnet trimmed with black velvet; the Countess of Norbury, grenat velvet, with bonnet to match; Lady Charlotte Graham Toler, white; Theresa Countess of Shrewsbury, black and white satin in broad stripes, and black bonnet; Lady Elcho, white wool crêpe, and white bonnet; Lady Vivian, cream satin, veiled all over with Valenciennes lace of a deeper shade, with cream bonnet and pink feather; the Countess of Roden, strawberry-coloured satin, brocaded with ruby velvet, with bonnet to harmonise; Lady Louisa Mills, dark brown satin, striped with gold and brown velvet; Miss Mills, pale blue nun's cloth trimmed with handsome embroidery; Lady G. Ogilvy, brown silk skirt, with bodice and drapery of ficelle canvas striped with brown plush, and bonnet to match; Lady Leslie, white Surah trimmed with black velvet; the Misses Lowther, cream crêpe, with trimming of coloured embroidery, and blue bonnets. As the bridal procession passed to the chancel the nuptial hymn, "How welcome was the call," was sung by the choir, after which the ceremony commenced. The Hon. and Rev. George W. Bourke, rector of Pulborough, Sussex, and chaplain to the Queen, uncle of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Edward Tyler, M.A. The service concluded with the favourite hymn "Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove." While the register was being signed, fragrant wedding favours of the choicest natural white flowers were lavishly distributed amongst those present. The bridal party afterwards reassembled at 1, Palace-gate, where the Countess of Mayo entertained a large party of friends at breakfast, and later the newly-wedded couple started for Dunraven Castle, the Earl of Dunraven's seat in Glamorganshire, where they will pass the honeymoon. The bride's travelling dress was of cream muslin with brown velvet trimmings, and she wore a bonnet to match. The wedding presents were very numerous and handsome.

The marriage of Col. the Hon. Alex. W. F. Fraser, Master of Saltoun (Grenadier Guards), eldest son of Lord Saltoun, with Miss Mary Helena Grattan-Bellew, sister of Sir Henry C. Grattan-Bellew, of Mount Bellew, co. Galway, was solemnised at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, on Tuesday last. The wedding party assembled at the church soon after eleven o'clock. The bride, who was attended by five bridesmaids, was attired in bodice and train of thick pearl-white Sicilienne, over a petticoat of white satin, richly trimmed with lace and orange blossoms. She wore a small cluster of orange blossoms in her hair, and a tulle veil, edged with pearls and fastened with diamonds, her other ornaments being of diamonds and pearls. The bridesmaids were dressed in cream crêpe, with moiré sashes, and had white tulle bonnets, trimmed with satin ribbons and lilies of the valley, and carried bouquets of shaded roses and white flowers. Mrs. Grattan-Bellew, mother of the bride, was handsomely dressed in dark blue satin merveilleux, trimmed with jet of the same colour, and bonnet to match, relieved with pale yellow flowers. Most of the dresses among the wedding party were white or cream. A pretty one was composed of cream ottoman and frisé stripe, trimmed with lace and satin, and lace bonnet, ornamented with a cluster of violets. Another of cream satin, over a lace skirt, was trimmed with pale blue corded ribbon, and bonnet to correspond. The Rev. Thomas Croft officiated. The service was fully choral, two hymns being sung during the ceremony. Lady Laura Grattan afterwards entertained the wedding party at breakfast at 11, Eaton-square, and later in the afternoon the newly-wedded couple departed on their wedding tour.

A State concert was given, by command of the Queen, on Friday evening, the 3rd inst., at Buckingham Palace. The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Princess Louise and Prince Albert Victor of Wales, were present, and also Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, Princess Beatrice, the Duc d'Aumale, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and others. The Princess of Wales wore a dress of myrtle-green Lyons velvet and eau de Nil satin duchesse, trimmed with silver tissue and Irish lace; bodice with stomacher of tissue and lace to correspond; headdress, a tiara of diamonds. The Princess Louise of Wales wore a lovely toilette of rich pale blue brocade, trimmed with tulle, festooned with a few bouquets of cherry blossom; bodice to correspond; ornaments, pearls, diamonds, and sapphires. The vocalists were Mesdames Albani and Trebelli, Mdlle. Van Zandt, Signor Nicolini, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Signor del Puente. Every seat was occupied, and there was an exceptionally large attendance of Royalties and Ambassadors. The political notables of both parties also appeared in great force.

Mrs. W. H. Smith had a large reception on Wednesday night at 3, Grosvenor-place; but her husband, the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for War, was absent, having been summoned to Windsor by Her Majesty. The band of the Royal Marines, Chatham Division, played in the second drawing-room. The hostess wore a black satin dress trimmed with jet. There were many beautiful dresses worn by the guests. Lady Conyers had a white satin petticoat with perpendicular fringes of pearls, the bodice and train of yellow brocade; Lady Egmont, a yellow moiré of the palest tinge shot with gold; Mrs. Makins, a dress of yellow and white. A very happy combination of colour was a satin of the lightest lettuce-green, with bands of brown velvet arranged as braces on the bodice. Lady Spencer Clifford wore blue; Mdme. Gosch, pink, with draperies of fine lace. A Chinese crêpe shawl, embroidered in divers colours, had been employed as a front to a blue skirt and bodice, trimmed with Venetian point. There was a great diversity in dress. Many of the matrons wore high bodices, while the young ladies had low bodices and tulle skirts. Miss Storer appeared in white tulle, with a lattice-work of roses over the front and on the bodice, mixed with light green ribbon, matching the foliage. The sleeves are now worn very short, a wreath of flowers coming from the point of the shoulder to the bust. Several black dresses had roses so arranged. Lady Whittaker Ellis wore a rich slate and brown brocade and magnificent diamonds, which abounded on all sides. Mrs. Richardson Gardner's were very notable. She had a parure, comprising a fine coronet and distinct stars. Her dress was white, with an apron of black lace falling straight at the back, and tied with ribbons. This reception was particularly brilliant from the fact that there were many uniforms and Court dresses worn by people coming from the Speaker's *levée*. An Indian prince was one of the lions of the evening, wearing a round black embroidered cap, with a diamond aigrette. The Diplomatic Corps was very largely represented, and both the Siamese and Japanese were present.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Benson had their second garden party at Lambeth Palace on Saturday last, at which a very numerous company assembled. The Archbishop and Mrs. Benson received their friends on the lawn. Among those present were the Servian Minister and Mdme. Mijatovitch, the Danish Chargé d'Affaires and Mdme. Gosch, the Marquis of Ailesbury, the Earl and Countess of Longford and Lady Georgiana Pakenham, the Earl and Countess of Glasgow, the Countess of Mar and Kellie, the Earl of Belmore and Ladies Corry, the Earl and Countess of Rosse, the Dowager Countess of Bandon and Lady Emily Bernard, the Countess of Elgin and Lady Louisa Bruce, the Dowager Countess of Winterton, and a host of others. Mrs. Benson wore black; the Countess of Aberdeen was in sapphire-blue silk trimmed with velvet of the same colour, and bonnet *en suite*; the Countess of Rosse in biscuit lace and muslin; Countess de Florian, grey broché canvas trimmed with satin, and bonnet to match; the Countess of Mar, biscuit canvas and satin, with gold bonnet; Mrs. Glyn Vivian, pink crêpe, the skirt being veiled with cream lace, and caught with gold and cream velvet ribbons, and cream and pink bonnet; Mrs. Cunliffe Brooks, water-coloured satin trimmed with beautiful embroidery, and looped with cord and jet trimmings to match the satin; Lady Riddell, cream embroidered canvas, and red and cream bonnet; Lady Holland, grey satin merveilleux and crêpe; Lady Lysons, purple velvet; Mrs. Gilliat, plum-coloured velvet with panels and drapery of embroidered China crêpe; Mrs. Sitwell, violet velvet intermixed with violet and white broché velvet, parasol and bonnet to match.

Papers relating to the withdrawal of troops from the province of Dongola, dating from the 26th of June to the 2nd of July, have been issued. On the first-mentioned date the Secretary for War telegraphed to Lord Wolseley to know if there were many troops at Dongola. Lord Wolseley replied that there were some troops there, and that there would be no difficulty in reoccupying the positions recently held. On the 27th of June Lord Wolseley telegraphed from Cairo:—

"My telegrams and despatches to your predecessor give my views of the situation. No material change since. You cannot get out of Egypt for many years to come. If the present policy of retreat be persisted in, the Mahdi will become stronger and stronger, and you will have to increase your garrison and submit to the indignity of being threatened by him. Eventually you will have to fight him to hold your position in Egypt, which you will then do with the population round you ready on any reverse to rise against you. No frontier force can keep the Mahdi out of Egypt; and the Mahdi, sooner or later, must be smashed, or he will smash you. To advance in the autumn on Khartoum and discredit the Mahdi by serious defeat on his own ground would certainly finish him. The operation, if done deliberately, would be a simple one, and, as far as anything can be a certainty in war, it would be a certainty. I would leave Souakim as it is."

The Secretary for War telegraphed in reply to hold on to Dongola until the Government had considered the question, and to report the strength required to retain it, apart from any question of advance in the autumn. Telegrams then passed between Lord Wolseley and General Sir Redvers Buller; and the latter reported that while it was possible to reoccupy Dongola, it could not be done without what would be really a new expedition. The province was exhausted of grain, and everything would have to be brought from Egypt. Lord Wolseley added that he thought Buller over-estimated the difficulties. On the 1st inst. the Secretary for War telegraphed that the Government had decided that the retreat ordered by their predecessors was to be continued to the point which in Lord Wolseley's judgment provided for the security of Egypt. This was followed by a War Office despatch on the 2nd inst., in which Mr. W. H. Smith said:—

"Her Majesty's Government, after full consideration of all the circumstances, were not prepared to reverse the orders given by their predecessors by countermanding the retreat of the force from Dongola; but that they considered that it was desirable for the defence of Egypt that the railway from Wady Halfa to Ferket, the completion of which had been decided upon and material provided, and which they were advised was absolutely necessary in the event of any forward movement having to be made to meet any dangers threatening Egypt from the south, should not be abandoned."

The Queen held a private investiture on Saturday at Windsor, when the undermentioned Knights Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath were respectively introduced into the presence of the Sovereign by Lieut.-General Lord De Ros (Lord in Waiting), and the Queen conferred upon them the honour of knighthood, and delivered to them respectively the Star of their dignity in the Order:—Lord Aberdare, the Marquis of Normanby, Viscount Eversley, Viscount Sherbrooke, and Major-General Sir Peter S. Lumsden (Military). The Right Hon. Sir James Fergusson was then introduced into the Queen's presence, and Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of knighthood, and invested him with the Riband and Badge of a Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India, and delivered to him the Star of his dignity in the Order. The following were then in like manner introduced, when the Queen conferred upon them respectively the honour of knighthood, and invested them with the Riband and Badge of Knights Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George:—Lord Carrington, Major-General Sir A. Clarke, and Sir Frederick A. Weld. After which Mr. Nathaniel Barnaby and Mr. Augustus K. Stephenson were introduced into the presence of the Sovereign, when Her Majesty conferred upon them the honour of knighthood and invested them with the Insignia of the Civil Division of the Second Class of the Order of the Bath.

The demolition of the Roman Ghetto, the oldest Jewish quarter in Europe, dating, it is said, from before Cæsar's time, is proceeding rapidly. The Archæological Commission which is charged with the exploration and protection of ancient monuments has applied to the Italian Government that measures shall be taken for clearing the temple of Jupiter and the portico of Octavia from the buildings which have grown up around them, and also for putting them in such a state of repair as is necessary for their preservation. The Commission also requests that the new streets which are to be laid down over the cleared area shall be so planned that their points of intersection shall coincide with the following ancient buildings, which are now within the Ghetto:—The theatre of Marcellus, the crypt of the Emperor Balbus, and the porticoes of the Flavian Emperors and of the Emperor Philip. There is a supplementary request that these buildings shall be placed on the list of ancient monuments, for the preservation of which a small contribution is annually made by the State.

The Austrian Academy of Science has been informed by Count Kalnoky that some excavations which are being conducted by Austrian archæologists at Luxor, in Upper Egypt, have brought to light five magnificent granite statues, all supposed to represent the Pharaoh Rameses II. Four of the statues are damaged, but one is entire.

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